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Comment Of The Day

China's Go-Slow

THERE is a danger in reading into the massive 15,000-word resolution of the central executive committee of the Chinese Communist Party a sweeping repudiation of Mao Tse-tung. Undoubtedly his relentless drive to usher in the communes has met with a temporary setback, but there is no reason to suppose that in making this decision the party has done other than adopt a policy that Mao himself has approved.

In 1955, Mao admitted that the "great task of collectivisation is bound to go too far at times." These excesses, he said, would be corrected. This is what has happened. But the resolution also shows that a powerful, moderate section of the party has taken advantage of the occasion to berate the extremist leadership.

Discontent

THIS discontent within the party has been apparent for some time. Smarting under the stinging denunciation of Mao, who in 1955 compared party leaders then guiding policy to "old-fashioned women hobbling along on bound feet," the gradualists have consented grudgingly to move faster and drive harder. The results have alarmed them. The nationwide criticism which emerged from the "One Hundred Flowers" campaign was a clear vindication of their policy.

A second wave of alarm came with Mao Tse-tung's decision to risk war with America over Quemoy. Not only did China sacrifice much popularity in South-east Asia, but argued the conservatives, the consequences of a single act of folly could have involved the destruction of China's entire industrial achievement since the 1911 revolution. And Mao's contemptuous dismissal of the Americans as "paper tigers" was not accepted with widespread enthusiasm. The commune trouble comes as a further vindication of the gradualists' theory, though it would be wrong to suggest that the present ascendancy of the go-slow advocates is more than temporary and since Mao predicted the difficulties that have since happened, his reputation as leader has not been tarnished.

The Party

THERE is in this complex situation another factor which deserves consideration. This is the party dictatorship of the Government machine which has been growing more and more oppressive. The dissatisfaction this has caused may have been an added inducement for Mao to resign the chairmanship of the republic. The way is open now for the appointment of a new Chairman — Chou En-lai perhaps — which will signify greater independence for the government.

As we said last week, Mao has removed himself from office undoubtedly as a result of mounting criticism but in order to make his position more secure. For he has vacated not the most important but the most vulnerable of his many positions without surrendering any of his real authority. He opens the way for a puppet and possibly a scapegoat. What his resignation really amounts to, is this: once the actual driver, he now becomes the backseat driver.

ROBBERS ENTER RESIDENCE UNDER DELIVERY PRETEXT WILLIAM S. T. LOUEY SHOT

Condition Not Serious

Mr William S. T. Louey, General Manager of the Kowloon Motor Bus Company, Ltd., was shot and injured in an armed robbery which took place at his residence, No 81, Waterloo Road, Kowloon, this morning.

He was admitted to Kowloon Hospital with a bullet wound in the right side of the abdomen. His condition was not serious. At about 10.30 a.m., three men, two of whom were armed with revolvers and the other with a dagger, entered Mr Louey's residence under the pretext of delivering a gift parcel.

In the garden on their way to the house, the men were met by Mr Louey and his son. One of the robbers suddenly produced a gun and pointed it at Mr Louey. Mr Louey's son, Ronald, saw the assailant grasping with his father and rushed to his aid.

During the struggle, the gun went off, and Mr Louey was wounded. The men then made their escape, leaving a revolver at the scene.

It is thought that about seven shots were fired and possibly one of the robbers might have been injured during the struggle.



WILLIAM LOUEY

Thousands See Stunt Man Die

Marseilles, Dec. 21. Several thousand spectators lining the waterfront looked on with horror today as M. Roger Froidevaux, a Swiss stunt man and high-diver, plunged to his death in the harbour from a helicopter hovering 164 feet overhead.

M. Froidevaux fell shortly before he planned to dive into the water, in an attempt to raise his own high-diver record of 144 feet to 164 feet. Dangling from a trapeze slung outside the helicopter, and performing exercises, he appeared to lose control. Turning like a falling leaf, he struck the water on his back and was dead when rescued and brought ashore. — Reuter.

Pope John Gets Votes

Paris, Dec. 21. Pope John XXIII and Prince Otto of Hapsburg received several votes today when French grand electors went to the polls to elect the new French President. The votes, believed to have been cast for symbolic purposes, were declared invalid, none of those named having been presented as candidates. — France-Press.

EAST BERLIN YOUTHS CAUSE RIOT



Here Elvis Presley, sporting a new stripe cleans his boots at the Army training area in West Germany where he is stationed. — U.P.I. Radiotelephoto.

Communists Blame It On Presley Influence

Berlin, Dec. 21. The Communists blamed the influence of Elvis Presley today for a riot in which Soviet zone youths threatened to kill an East German soldier in Halle.

The official Halle Communist newspaper, Freiheit said the riot occurred on Tuesday and 100 Communist People's policemen had to be called out to clear the area.

The newspaper said the police, investigating the homes of one of the ringleaders, discovered he had been to West Berlin and had brought back Presley rock 'n' roll records.

According to the newspaper, the rioting broke out after a number of Halle youths "provoked" an East German Army private who then summoned other soldiers to come and help him. More youths gathered at the scene when the soldier resisted the youths, Freiheit said.

It added that some "ring-leaders" in the crowd tried to turn the affair into a first class riot and called on the youths to kill the private.

The police then were summoned and cleared the rioters out, arresting an undisclosed number of youths, the East German paper said.

It said 15 of these arrested were turned over to their parents and the parents had been lectured on their family responsibility but an undisclosed number of the youths were still in custody, the newspaper said. — U.P.I.

Escape Artist Missing From Scottish Prison

Aberdeen, Dec. 21. Police theorised today that escape artist Johnny Ramensky may have met death in a labyrinth of sewer pipes underneath the Peterhead Prison.

Ramensky, also known as Ramney, escaped from the prison last Wednesday without leaving a clue and prison authorities were unable to show that he was actually outside the walls.

Officials said Ramensky, 33, may have met his end in an air vent or more likely in the maze of sewer pipes beneath the prison.

STARTED AT 13 The convict, who began his life of crime when he was 13, vanished during a three-minute stretch while being escorted along with a group of other prisoners from an exercise hall to the tailor's workshop.

Ramensky's escape was his fifth from the Peterhead Prison and his third this year. He is serving a 10-year sentence for stealing £10. He has been in prison for 31 years of his life. His first escape took place from Peterhead in 1924 when his first wife was dying. Ramensky's life record reads like a sensational crime thriller. During the war he gained fame as a commando on the basis of his expert touch as a safe cracker.

Queen Attends Windsor Party

Windsor, Dec. 20. The Queen last night attended a Christmas staff party at Windsor Castle. More than 500 guests thronged the Castle's Waterloo Chamber, which was decorated with holly and evergreens from Windsor forest. — China Mail Special.

Children Die

Kaukauna, Wis., Dec. 21. Six children died today when they were trapped inside their flaming home while their parents were at church. Five of the children huddled in a bathroom at the foot of a stairway and were suffocated. The body of the other child who died of burns, was found at the foot of the stairs. — Reuter.

Jayne Mansfield Has A Baby Boy

Santa Monica, Calif., Dec. 21. BLONDE Jayne Mansfield gave birth to a 9-pound 9½ ounce boy today at St John's Hospital 15 minutes after she was wheeled into the delivery room.

Birth of the actress's second child came after nine hours after Mickey Hargitay packed his wife in the family Cadillac and rushed her to hospital.

For the last 12 days, Hargitay said, he had stood by expecting the birth at any time. The child, named Miklos Palmer or Miklos Jeffrey, was due on the ninth of the month.

"This is rough on the nerves," the former Mr Universe said, but he was completely jubilant at the hospital over the birth of a boy.

"Like any father, I always wanted a boy," Mickey enthused. "I was positive it would be a boy but still it was a surprise."

A spokesman for the actress said Miss Mansfield "felt wonderful" and probably would be home for Christmas to visit with relatives.

This was Miss Mansfield's second child. Her daughter,

Jayne Marie, was born on November 6, 1950, of the actress's marriage to public relations man, Paul Mansfield.

At home in a Mediterranean-style mansion once owned by Rudy Vallee, the blonde actress and Hargitay had a newly-decorated pink-and-blue nursery waiting for the new baby.

Jayne and Hargitay were wed last January 18 in a modernistic chapel overlooking the Pacific at Palos Verdes estate, about 40 miles from Hollywood. — U.P.I.



Ingrid and husband No. 3—Lars Schmidt

Ingrid Bergman Has Hush-Hush Marriage

London, Dec. 21. Ingrid Bergman and her Swedish impresario fiance Lars Schmidt, were married at a hush-hush register office wedding here today, toasted each other in champagne and then flew to Paris before the news leaked out.

The Swedish actress and her groom — her third husband — arrived unnoticed with four friends at Caxton Hall, London's most fashionable register office.

Miss Bergman, 41, wore a pink fur over a blue costume with a spray of white flowers on her shoulder. Mr Schmidt — also 41 — sported a light grey lounge suit but no button-hole.

SLIPPED OUT

After the ceremony they slipped out of a side door and drove separately to the Swedish church in London to receive the benediction and blessing. Next stop was a West End hotel for a quiet champagne celebration with their friends who attended the ceremony.

Then the couple motored to London airport. Both dodged reporters' questions about their marriage plans. But soon after arriving in Paris the news was broken by the Granada (commercial) Television Company, whose chairman, Mr Sidney L. Bernstein was one of three witnesses. The couple, who were married by the Superintendent Registrar at Caxton Hall, left London for Paris after what had been described as "a three-day shopping expedition."

Lars Schmidt is Miss Bergman's third husband.

HER FIRST

Her first was Dr Peter Lindstrom, brain specialist, whom she married in Sweden in 1937. The marriage ended in 1950. They had one daughter, Pia — the initials of "Peter, Ingrid, Always" — who has changed her name to Jennie Ann.

Miss Bergman's next husband was the Italian film director Roberto Rossellini. They were married by proxy in 1950 in Mexico and had three children — Roberto and twin girls, Isotta and Isabella. The marriage was annulled last July by a Rome tribunal.

Neville Shute In Hospital

Melbourne, Dec. 21. English author Neville Shute is in Royal Melbourne Hospital following a heart attack, the Sun News Pictorial reported today.

His condition was not serious, the newspaper said. — China Mail Special.



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Chinese Pianist Defies Peking

Warsaw, Dec. 21. A gifted young Chinese concert pianist, Fu Tsun, today defied his Government's order to return to China and flew to London to continue his musical career in the West.

Polish musical friends said tonight that the Chinese Embassy in Warsaw had ordered Fu to go home before the end of the year because he inadvertently spoke of his love for a Polish girl and his preference for European music. Fu has been studying music in Poland since 1952. He is 24.

Fu was third in the 1955 International Chopin Competition for the most coveted Polish pianistic prize. Since then he has studied under Professor Zbigniew Drzewiecki, one of Poland's foremost piano teachers.

Wealthy Family According to his friends here Fu, the son of a wealthy Shanghai family, arrived in Poland with a Chinese folk dance and music troupe in 1952. He was the group's piano soloist. He stayed on to study.

After his successful performance in the 1955 Chopin Festival — in which he also won the Special Prize for Mazurkas — Fu studied under Professor Drzewiecki and gave concerts in Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia.

Earlier this year, his friends say, Fu told a girl in the Chinese Embassy of his passion for European music. He added that he also wanted to marry a Polish girl.

Father Arrested The Chinese girl informed her Embassy. The Embassy told Peking and the authorities arrested Fu's father on a charge of "translating, without authorisation, the novels of Romain Rolland (the French novelist)," his friends declare.

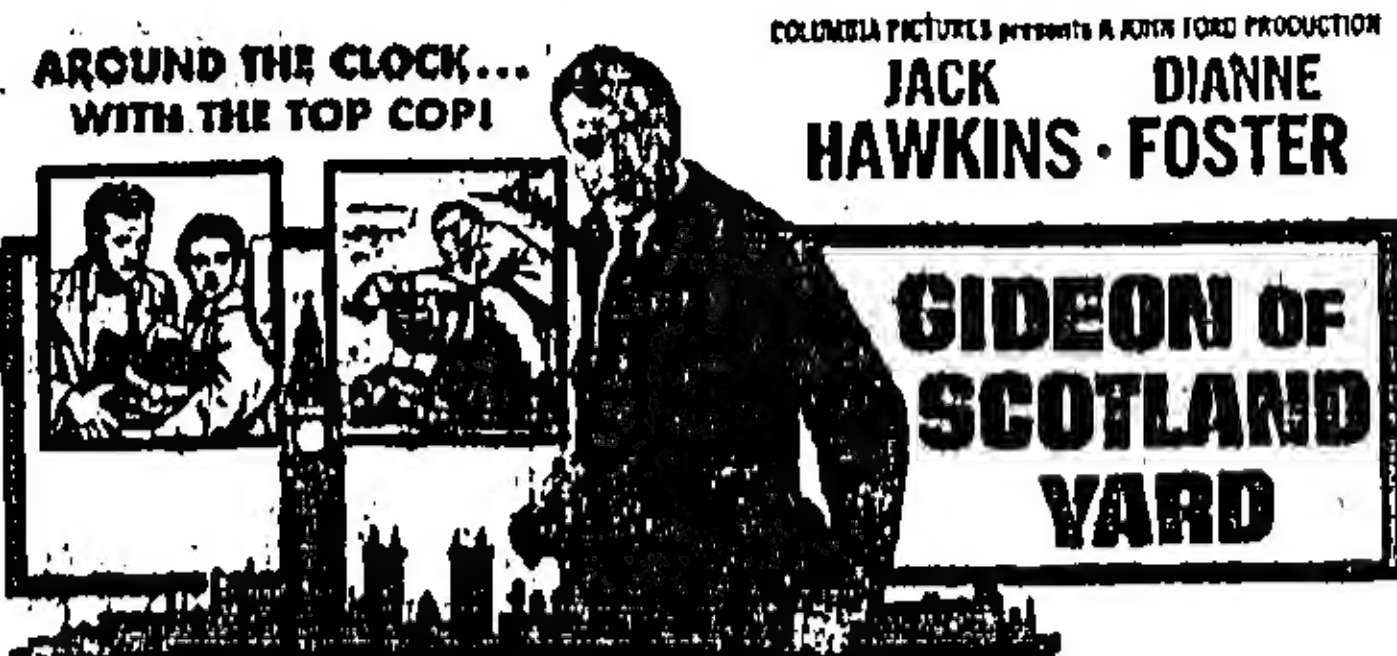
Fu was summoned to the Embassy, faced with his "unacceptable" statements, and told to perform an act of self-criticism. But Fu refused and he also declined to surrender his passport.

Tonight the young pianist kissed the girl good-bye at Ociec airport, and passed through the customs barrier. His passport and visa were in order. The plane was almost an hour late as the girl waited alone in the restaurant. As the plane took off she relaxed and laughed. — Reuter.

KING'S PRINCESS

At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M. At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

LAST 2 DAYS



KING'S PRINCESS

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COMPLETE CHANGE OF PROGRAMME

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KEN
LITTLEWOOD

assisted by
Miss MARIA CHAN

with
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ACCORDIONIST

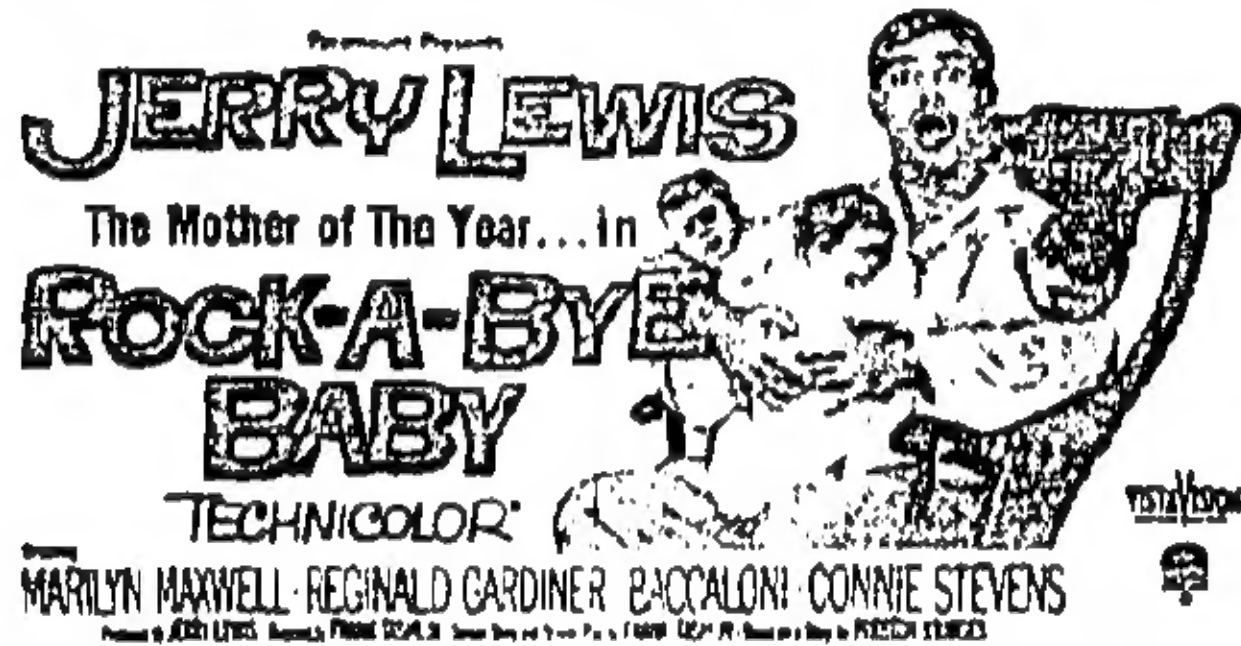
Miss SHIRLEY EVANS



Shirley Evans Ken Littlewood

COMMENCING WEDNESDAY

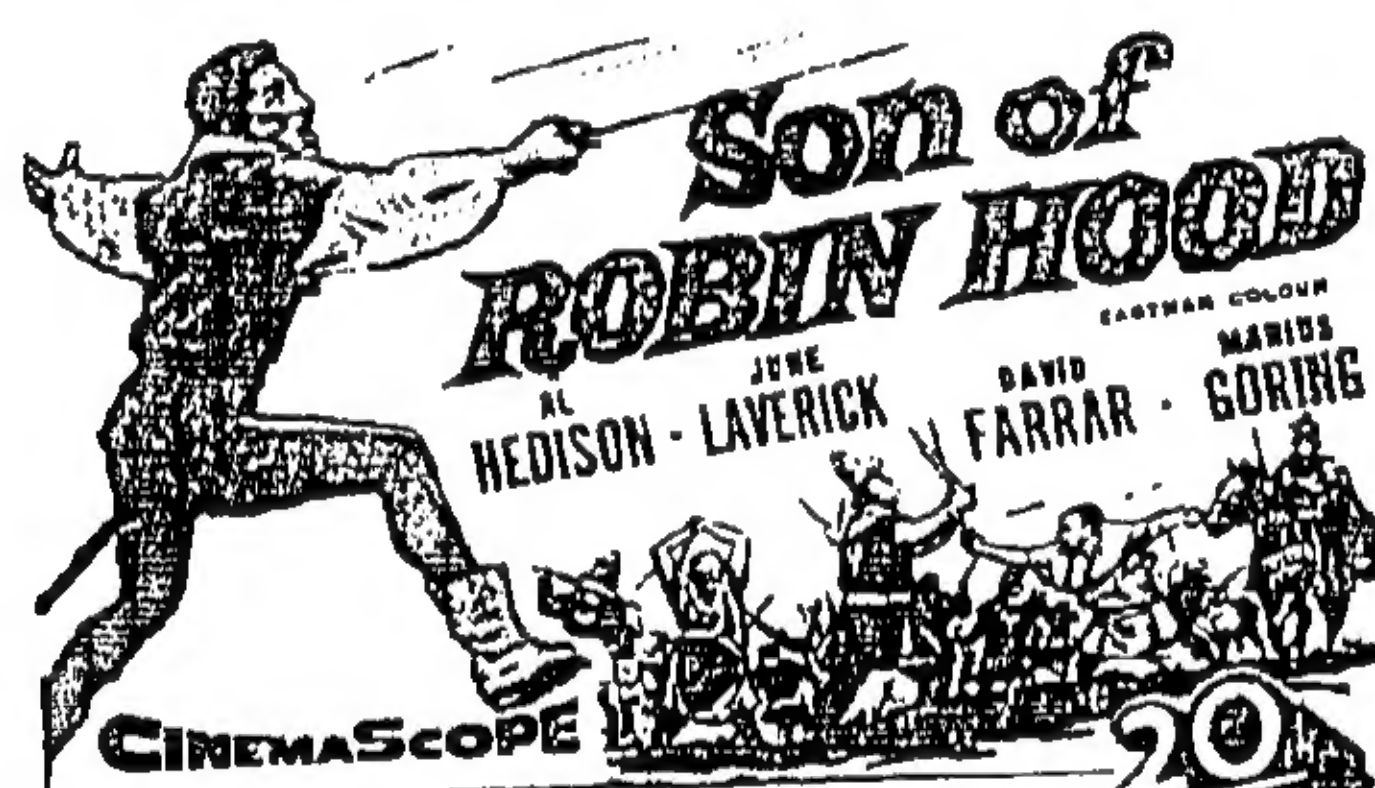
Gales of Laughter Guaranteed When You See
JERRY LEWIS Nurse Baby Triplets! Six Good Songs!



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ADDED: Latest 20th Century-Fox Novelties News

CHRISTMAS GREAT ATTRACTION!

Kenneth More will delight Hong Kong Audiences in this
role, and Jayne Mansfield emerges as a new personality—
you will be amazed by her performance!



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and 9.30 p.m.



Oratorio Society's "Messiah"

By D. E. GRAY

ON Friday evening in Queen Elizabeth School, Kowloon, a performance of Handel's "Messiah" was given by the Hongkong Oratorio Society. This young choir has been well trained and is a credit to Mr Dennis Parker who has so ably carried on the good work since Mr Theodore Huang's departure nearly a year ago. It is a great pity Mr Parker is severing his connection with this choir, since he is obviously a very able musician.

I would like to see an annual performance of "Messiah" become a feature of Hongkong's musical life, but such a performance should be on a much bigger scale—three choirs joining forces with an orchestra as well as an organ.

I have been told that the music for such a performance exists in Hongkong now. All it requires is that the governing bodies of three or four musical organisations should "get together" and plan ahead.

★ ★ ★

The soloists were not very good on Friday. Two of them, it is true, were hurriedly substituting for Robert Wiltcher who was, unfortunately, ill and unable to sing the very important tenor part. But Hongkong should be able to produce some better soloists. Good marks must be given to the organist (although she was not a brilliant performer) who had to carry the burden of organ and orchestra from beginning to end—on a Hammond organ.

But the organ alone is no substitute for an orchestra. I always find at performances of this oratorio, when there is an organ only, that the tempo of the music tends to drag at times, and this happened to some extent on Friday in some of the arias, when the organist was not under the firm beat of the conductor.

★ ★ ★

Handel composed this work for small choir, small orchestra, and an organ. I agree with The Sir Henry Woods of our time, who maintained that if Handel had composed the "Messiah" in the twentieth century, instead of the eighteenth, he would have employed all the forces at his command, such as are usually available in a British choral union and a British symphony orchestra of today.

Our ears, having become accustomed to the musical forces which portray the music of Wagner, Verdi and Strauss, need big forces to bring us to our feet at the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus, that masterpiece of praise to the Maker of all things.

Meanwhile, we can say thank you to the Hongkong Oratorio Society and to Mr Parker, their conductor, for the pleasure of Friday's performance. I hope Hongkong can have him conducting some future performance of this work with better resources at his command.

H.E. ATTENDS CAROL SERVICE AT CATHEDRAL

His Excellency the Governor attended the carol service of the Nine Lessons at St John's Cathedral with Lady Black and Miss Barbara Black last night.

He read the Ninth Lesson from the first chapter of St John about the meaning of Christmas. This was preceded by an old Basque carol "The Infant King". Upon arrival at the Cathedral His Excellency was welcomed by the Dean, the Very Rev. F. S. Temple, Bishop G. F. Doggett and Mr. Tom Widdowson. A large congregation heard the stately carol accompanied at the organ by Miss Cecilia Cheng singing songs of praise including Herbert's Carol and "The Infant King" from the German; Tolstoy's "Crown of Thorns"; "Lullaby My Little" a 15th century carol and many traditional favourites. The Dean conducted the service assisted by the Rev. J. Foster. Lessons were read by Ch. H. Owen-Bishop, the Hon. D. J. Chan, Dr. E. E. Chan and members of the congregation and choir.

Two Britons To Spend Another Christmas In Nasser's Cells?

By Alex Joannides

Cairo, Dec. 21.

Mr James Swinburn and Mr James Zarb, the two Britons jailed by Egypt as spies, were busy making themselves a 12-inch Christmas tree in their decorated cell when I visited them in Turah Gaol, today.

Both men were in good spirits but could not conceal their disappointment at having to spend their third Christmas behind bars from their families.

11th Hour

Their still-alive eleventh hour hopes were expressed to me this way—"Tension is lessening everywhere, with the Algerians releasing French prisoners, and Sir Hugh Foot reprieving Greek Cypriots."

"We believe, if we were released before Christmas this would be taken, back home, as an act of unconditional goodwill, creating an excellent impression and certainly making two families the happiest in the land."



James Zarb

BID TO "SPREAD" NEGROES IN U.S.

New York, Dec. 21.

Georgian Senator Richard B. Russell, senior, disclosed plans to introduce legislation aimed at bringing about a more equal distribution of the white and Negro races throughout the United States.

Under Mr Russell's proposed bill, a voluntary racial relocation commission would be created to encourage and assist persons who desire to live in other states to bring about a more balanced racial population in each state.

Mr Russell expressed "grave concern" over the bitterness that is being fostered because of what he called efforts to force integration of the white and Negro races in all relations of life.—U.P.I.

China Gets New TV Station

Paris, Dec. 21.

Workers, students and government employees in Harbin, north-east China, saw the first trial television programme on Saturday evening put out by the new television station in Harbin, Radio Peking reported today.

This is the third television station in China, the first in operation in Peking and the second in Shanghai. There are preparations to build another in Canton.

The only drawback in the TV station in Harbin is that it will operate every Saturday evening only for the time being.—France-Press.



James Swinburn

If their hopes are not realised much has been arranged to mitigate their disappointment.

Special Food

Special food parcels will be given them on six days of the festive season. They will receive presents from their wives through the Swiss Embassy and they will be able to talk to their wives by telephone on December 25.

Their fare from the special parcels will include turkey and Christmas pudding, and during the holiday they will attend services and receive Holy Communion in the prison.

Both are very popular with the prison's administration. Brigadier Desaki Bashlawi, the governor, told me: "They are our models and we all like them very much."

Since last July, both men have spent most of their time reading or walking within the prison. They have not been to the quarry where they worked during the first months of their sentences.

Mail Delay

Their only complaint to me was about the two- to three-week delay in receiving mail from home.

Before I left, they told me: "If we don't make it this year, we hope, with better luck, to spend next Christmas with our families."

Mr Swinburn, 52, is serving a five-year sentence and Mr Zarb, 38, a 10-year sentence.—China Mail Special.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rod Steiger

Sir—I think Mr Anthony Fuller has exaggerated a little in saying that "it had taken a British film ('Across The Bridge') to reveal what an outstanding actor Rod Steiger is." For one thing, before this picture Steiger had some (according to some British critics) pretty good roles in "Big Knife," "The Harder They Fall" and "One Man Mutiny," all American productions.

Secondly, I don't believe "Across The Bridge" is such a fine picture. Just my personal opinion, of course; but to quote British critic Derek Hill: "Steiger's performance is as studied, self-conscious and contrived as the script.... The enthusiastic reception which both these films ('Across The Bridge' and 'Manuela') have received in the national press seems to indicate that sickness has for so long been a stranger to British production that evidence of it is now considered exciting, regardless of the material on which it is employed. Competence in treatment and technique is certainly worth having, but to hail it as an achievement in itself seems hardly likely to encourage the overdue search for worthwhile themes."

N. T. CHOW.

Winter Arrives

Chicago, Dec. 21.
Snow and cold hit scattered sections of the U.S. today to herald the arrival of winter which starts early Monday.—U.P.I.

ORIENTAL MAJESTIC

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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

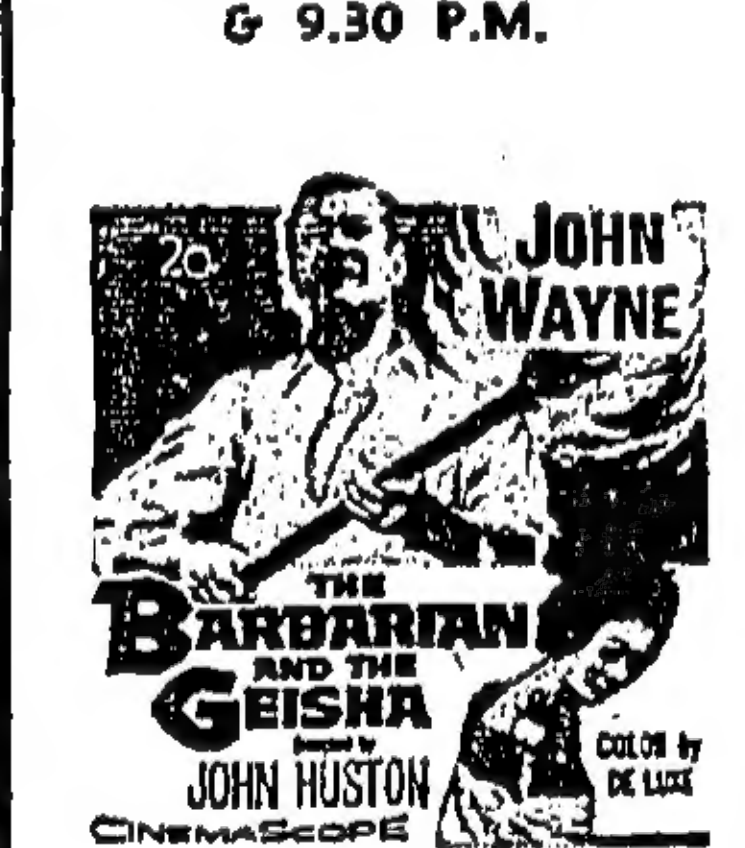
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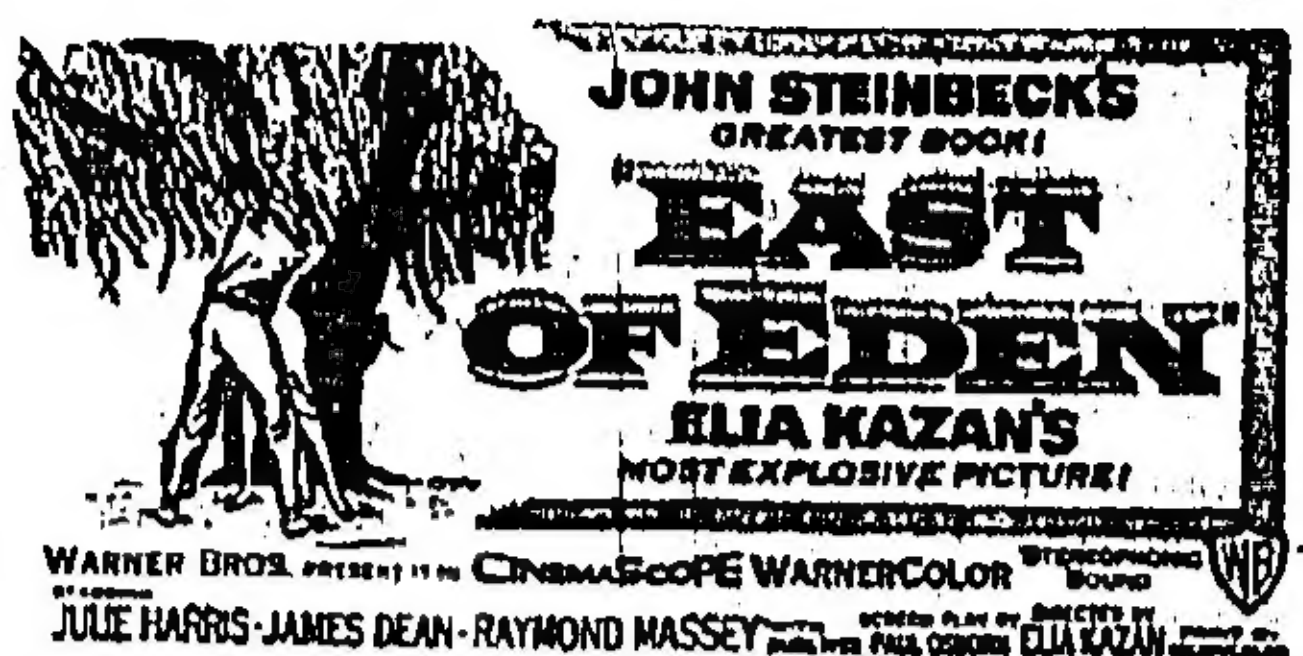


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Sophia LOREN • Anthony PERKINS in
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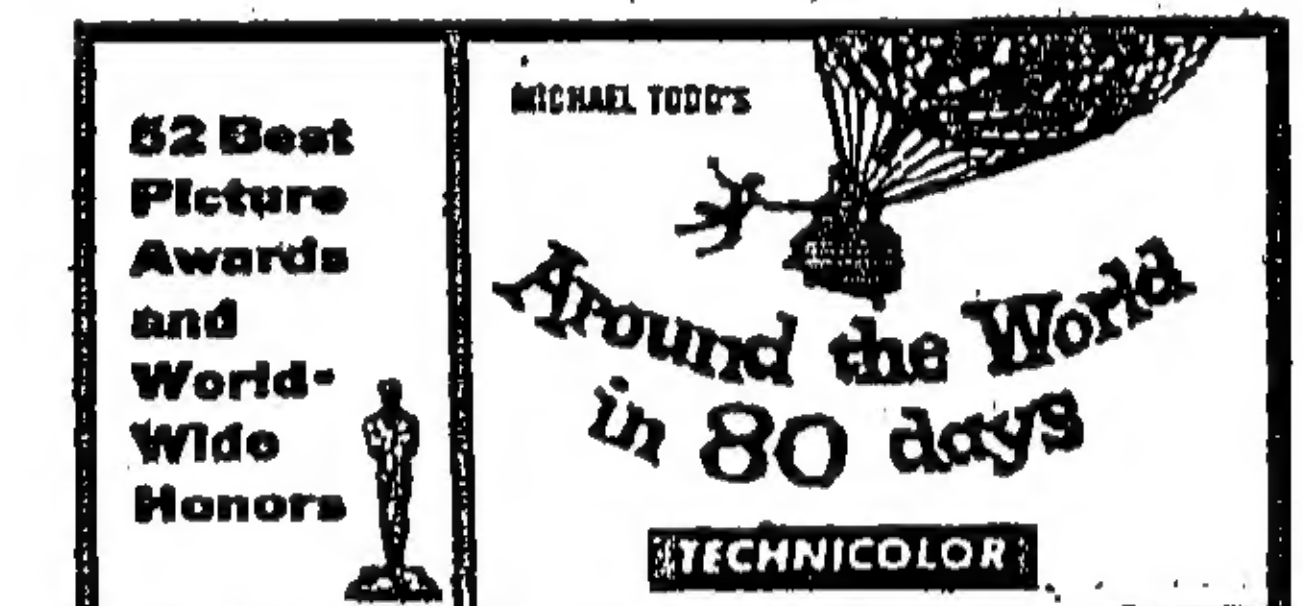
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POP



FBI CHIEF FLAYS APATHY TO RED THREAT

Washington, Dec. 21. Federal Bureau of Investigation Director J. Edgar Hoover charged today that public apathy encouraged "dupes and sympathizers" of the Communist Party to attack America's law enforcement agencies.

Hoover, in a year-end report to Attorney General William P. Rogers, apparently referred to newspaper and magazine articles critical of the FBI.

Diseased Mice Taken For Pets

Atlanta, Dec. 21. Three people were bitten today by possibly rabid white mice stolen from a State Health Department laboratory here by a band of teenagers who thought they would make nice pets.

George Holley, agent of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, said he solved the case of the mice within an hour of being informed that 25 of the rodents were missing.

But he added that even this was not fast enough to prevent the bites.

The Laboratory Director, Walter Bowman, said the three bitten people, the father, a brother and a sister, one of four youths who stole the mice, would have to take rabies treatment.

Mr. Holley said the four juveniles, ranging in age from 13 to 15, entered the lab late Saturday night by crawling through an unlocked window. They gathered up the mice from a series of cages.

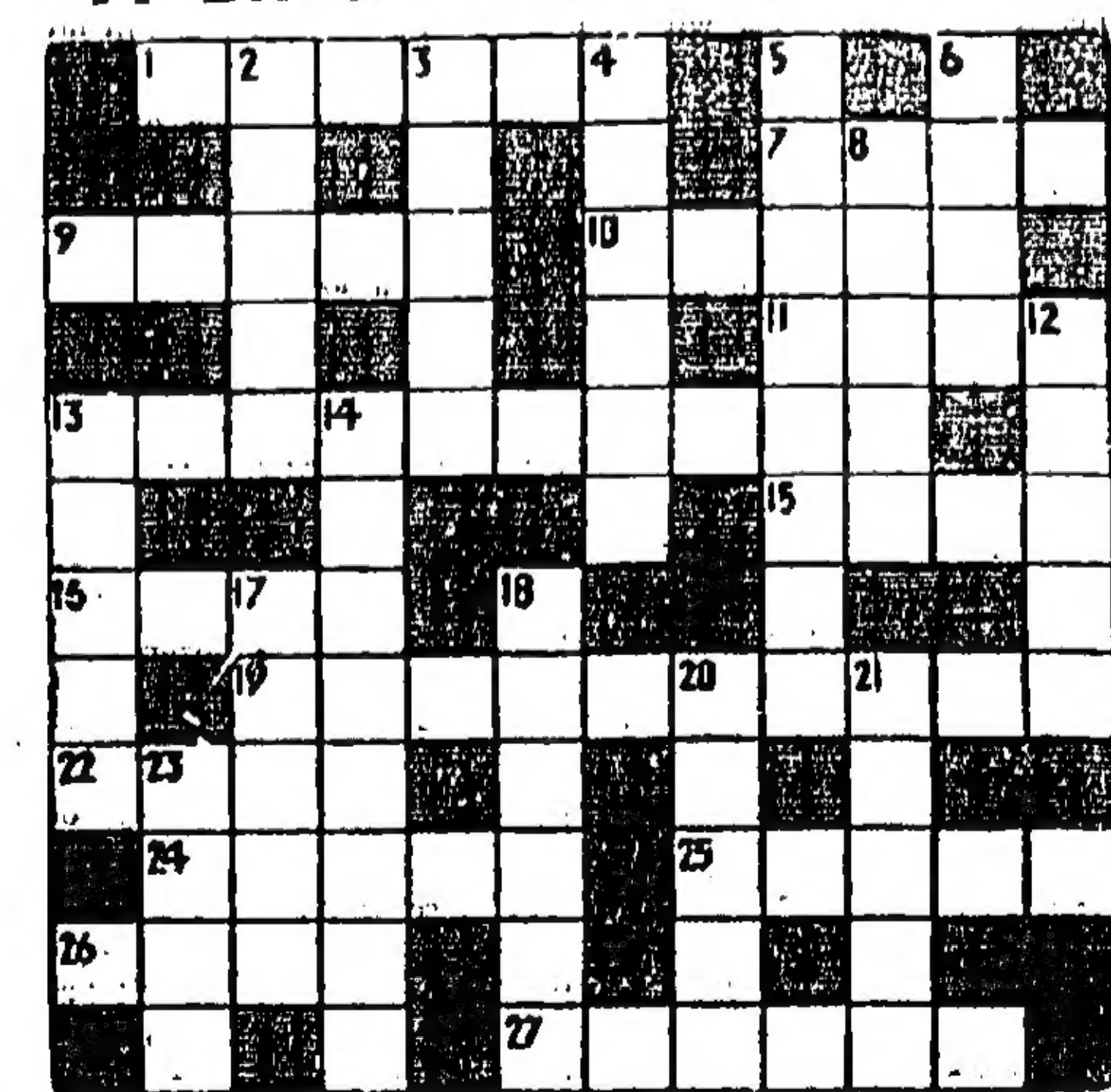
He said he charged upon one of the youths involved walking down the street this morning.—U.P.I.

Grandpa Bing

Santa Monica, Dec. 21. Bing Crosby became a grandfather today when the wife of his son Dennis gave birth to a boy.

The mother, former showgirl Pat Sheehan, and the eight-pound 13-ounce baby were reported doing well in St. John's hospital. Reuter.

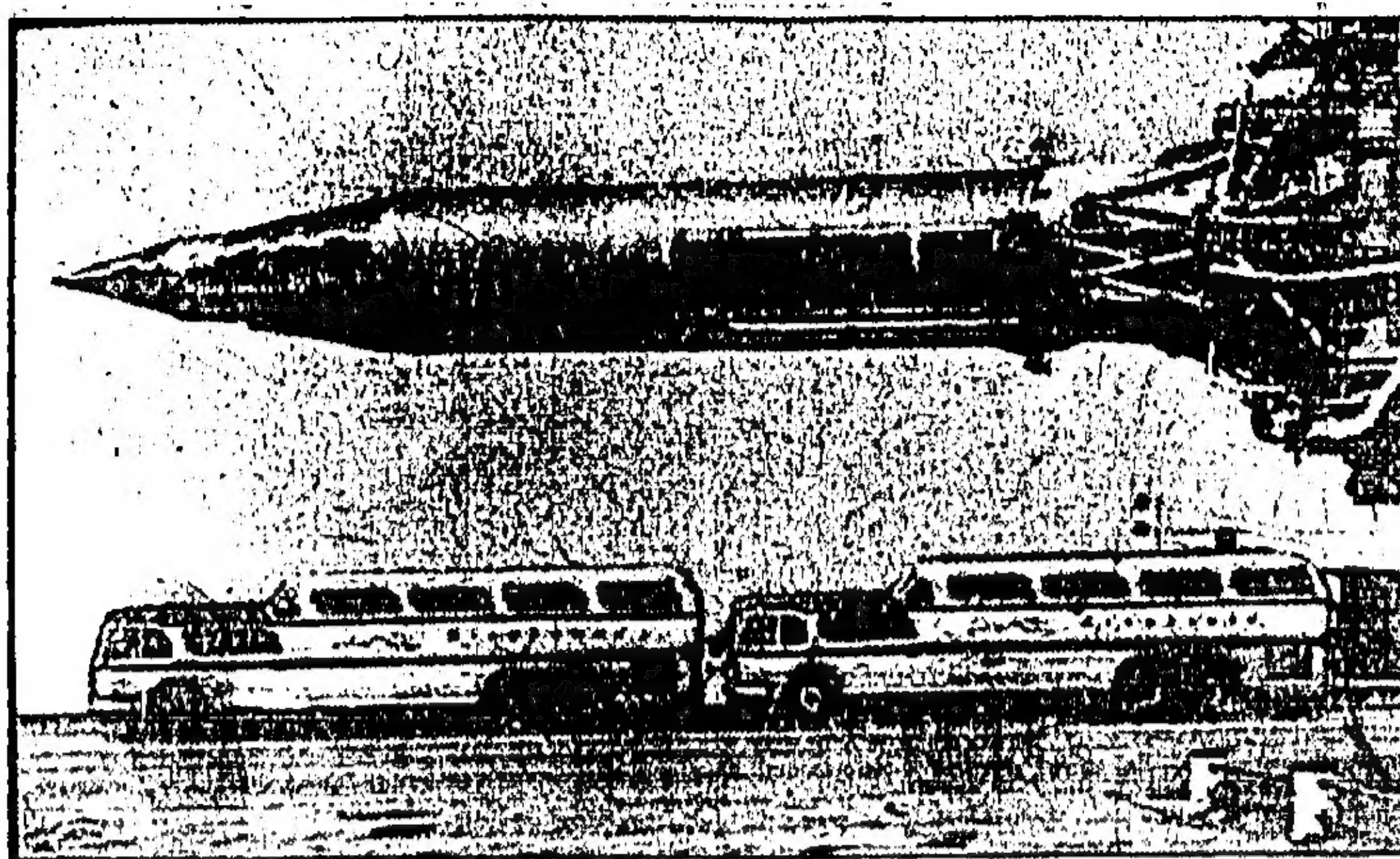
A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Frozen stiff finally (5).
 - 2 River of Germany (4).
 - 3 One end of the Nile, for example (6).
 - 4 But does the bishop wear it at an angle of 45 degrees? (5).
 - 5 Slippery customers (4).
 - 6 Carriers of note, may be (10).
 - 7 Man is one (5).
 - 8 Flat misdeed (4).
 - 9 Foundry owner (10).
 - 10 Can do (4).
 - 11 Turning machine (5).
 - 12 What a bad driver may do (3, 2).
 - 13 Supporters' plaything (10).
- DOWN**
- 1 Regulations for straight lines (5).
 - 2 A Darling (5).
 - 3 Injury (5).
 - 4 Clashes (5).
 - 5 Strip off (4).
 - 6 Use guess (5).
 - 7 It carried a sharp tip (5).
 - 8 Comedian's anecdotes (8).
 - 9 Put out of sight (8).
 - 10 Mr. Manner (5).
 - 11 Make beloved (5).
 - 12 Race place (5).
 - 13 The lot (5).
 - 14 Cold athlete (4).

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Coffin, 4 Odour, 7 Armada, 8 Scots, 10 Gals, 12 Dilemma, 15 Iced, 16 Poop, 17 Rock, 18 Basil, 20 S-treets, 21 Taro, 22 Whets, 24 Pines, 25 C-rude, 26 Trysts, Down: 1 Chargers, 2 Familiar, 3 Eddy, 5 Decadent, 6 Ullmo, 9 Midas, 11 Arrested, 12 Devil, 13 M.O.-buses, 14 Appetizer, 16 Echer, 22 Fair.

One Atlas—Two Buses



America's mightiest satellite, the 8,800-pound Atlas missile which is circling the earth is 85ft. long—five feet longer than two average highway buses. By way of illustration, the Atlas satellite which was launched on Thursday is shown compared to two buses in this composite picture. The photograph of the Atlas was made as it sat poised before firing.—U.P.I.

Paper Owners Defy Strikers

New York, Dec. 21. The Publishers' Association of New York City firmly stood its ground today against truck drivers who have shut down nine major daily newspapers in a 12-day strike.

The association issued a statement on behalf of the publishers of the nine papers, which have a combined daily circulation of 5,500,000. Sunday papers affected have a total circulation of nearly 8,000,000.

Yesterday, nearly all the other unions representing 15,000 newspaper workers who have been laid off because of the strike by 1,500 deliverers unanimously turned down an appeal for help from the strikers.

The Newspaper and Mail Deliverers' Union, an independent labour organization, asked the unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO to join its picket lines and to give financial support. The answer was a flat "no."

The publishers followed this up today with a statement saying they had voted unanimously to reaffirm their support of the position taken by their negotiating committee.

Negotiations will resume under auspices of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service at 2 p.m. on Monday.—U.P.I.

TIME TABLE FOR PARTIES

Paris. Public relations officers and Press attaches in Paris have set up a new organization to co-ordinate their cocktail parties.

With more than 1,000 publicity organizations in the French capital, attaches found that their parties, designed to launch perhaps a new hat, a new author or a new building, often fell flat—all the journalists were being wooed by a rival group at another cocktail party.

So 250 of the Press attaches have banded together and set up a central office to plot dates and prevent a clash of times for parties and press conferences.—Reuter.

Frogman Swims 600 Miles In Three Weeks

Vancouver, Dec. 21. Hundreds of people lined the streets of New Westminster, B.C., today to cheer a French frogman as he climbed out of the water after swimming 600 miles along the dangerous Fraser River.

The Boy Who Liked Big Fires

Lowestoft, Dec. 20.

A 15-year-old boy who admitted setting fire to four buildings told a court here: "I like the excitement of watching it."

The court was told that one fire—in a paper and a cardboard store—burned for three days.

The court adjourned its decision for three weeks and sent the boy to a remand home for examination.

Detective Inspector R. J. Prior said that before the last of the four fires the boy told another that he had attempted earlier to fire the building and added: "It never went. It would have made a lovely blaze."

About the charge of attempting to set fire to a warehouse, the boy said: "I got a piece of paper from our bonfire site, put it through a grating (in the pavement) and set fire to it with a match."

P. C. Levett continued that in a statement the boy said he set fire to a bonfire before Guy Fawkes Day, and the Fire Brigade had to be called to put the fire out.

About another fire at a warehouse, the boy's statement added that he went into a shed where there were chopped sticks for kindling, put in a piece of fish and chip paper on top of the sticks, and lit it.

When he got home he could see smoke and sparks coming from the direction of the fire. The statement also said that since he fired the Guy Fawkes bonfire, he "liked to see the smoke and the Fire Brigade."

Detective-Constable C. F. Keeble said that the boy made a statement that after he had set fire to the big paper and cardboard store which burned furiously he went back with some other boys to watch the fire and the Fire Brigade.

Detective-Inspector Prior said that this big fire burned for three days continuously, and the Fire Brigade had to make precautionary visits for a week.—China Mail Special.

Ticket To Gael

Canterbury, Dec. 21. Cornelius Davies, who likes to spend Christmas in gael, kicked in the glass wall of an outdoor telephone booth yesterday and got the number he wanted—a prisoner's serial number.

The same officer has been Davies' ticket to gael—for two months each time—in the last two December. The judge was glad to oblige again this year.

"Do you actually want to spend Christmas in prison?" asked an incredulous court clerk.

Davies nodded, and grinned broadly as he was led away.—U.P.I.

Pasternak Says Home Teemed With Doctors

Bonn, Dec. 21. The Russian author, Boris Pasternak, has described how he was "surrounded by doctors" in his home when a political storm broke over his head last October after he was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature.

"Perhaps they were afraid I would do something to myself," Mr. Pasternak told the Moscow correspondent of a Hamburg newspaper.

The correspondent quoted the author, who rejected the Nobel award as saying that he had not bothered to consult a doctor about a nerve inflammation in his left arm which occasionally troubled him.

"It will go away again. I had enough in those days in October when the storm was raging over me. Then my house was simply a hospital," Pasternak said.

"A woman doctor was put by me. I told her she could go home. She had no need to worry about me."

"But she did not go. She could not go because she had been ordered to stay with me."

"They Were Afraid"

"Perhaps they were afraid I would do something to myself. So I was all the time surrounded by doctors. They even slept under my roof."

The newspaper's correspondent also quoted Pasternak as saying: "I believe I have made a contribution to the development of Russia. That is why I am so composed."

"Political storms exist at all times and everywhere... such storms are natural events. One has to put up with them."

"My 'Doctor Zhivago' was my life's work. I put a lot of effort into it and so I knew this book would be a success."

"But if people wish to print something by me there is no need to dip into a chest of mothballs. I am not yet dead. I am still working."

But Pasternak said that foreign publishers should not publish "immature or unworthy" pieces of his earlier literary work.

Such publishers could contact "a good acquaintance of mine"—a woman living in Paris—who had a copy of a small volume of poems titled "In the Mountains" which were "unpolitical and something personal."—Reuter.

Hoop Record

Politiers, Dec. 21. Claude Gachet, 23-year-old plumber today set up what he claims is a world record for hula-hoop, gyrating of 13 hours, 49 minutes without a stop.

His seconds said he turned the hoop 100,000 times at an average speed of 124 whirls a minute.—Reuter.



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Serov

DOWN, down, down they go — all Krushchev's friends. The Georgis, the Nikolais, the Vyacheslavs, all the old chums.

And it looked like the beginning of the long road to obscurity for another old friend of the Russian leader.

Not one of his nicest pals. But to all appearances, until now, one of his closest ones.

They called him Ivan the Terrible.

Small, tilt-nosed, smiling, he knew more of the Kremlin's secrets, more about what went on behind the scenes than Krushchev himself.

For 28 years he has had access to all the secret files, knew all the plots, cooked up many of them himself.

BEGINNING

His career began in 1930 with a post in Stalin's personal secretariat, then directed by another former friend of Krushchev, Georgi Malenkov.

While working his gradual way to the top he had many opportunities to see the usual fate of a Soviet Secret Police boss.

He saw all his predecessors—the terrible Yagoda, Manzhinsky, Dzerzhinsky, and finally Beria—go to a violent death.

But Ivan Aleksandrovich never drew the necessary moral.

By STEPHEN CONSTANT



He prospered. He did big jobs, important jobs for his masters. He directed mass deportations from the Baltic countries at the beginning of the war.

Then came his big chance. He was appointed head of the Ukrainian State Security Organisation. His close colleague during the job was none other than Nikita Krushchev, who was at the time also working in the Ukraine.

The big friendship—if friendship it was—dates from those days. After the Ukraine came a succession of important jobs, the deportation of the Crimean Tatars ordered by Stalin, the deportation of Soviet citizens living in Germany.

It was during this period, just after the war when he performed one of his most valuable services to the Kremlin.

He brought home to Russia a loyal watch Germany's leading specialists in rocket weapons and atomic physics.

That Russian Sputnik owes a lot to Ivan Aleksandrovich.

He became deputy chief of the dreaded SMERSH organisation. The word is an abbreviation of the phrase "Death to Spies." They were the people who are giving such trouble to that amiable young man James Bond whose adventures we printed sometime ago.

In April 1954 he was appointed Chairman of the Committee for State Security, the post he held until recently.

IN BRITAIN

He was trusted by Krushchev. There can be no doubt of that. It was he who fixed all the security arrangements during B & K's memorable junkets to Britain, India, Burma, Pakistan and Finland.

Of course the announcement about his removal from the State Security job does not necessarily mean that Serov is to be executed. I feel sure that he will be given another job soon.

But it is not very likely that it will be a better job.

I SUGGEST

Why has Krushchev done away with Ivan? I suggest there are two reasons:—

1 SEROV is not a popular man in Russia. A gesture like the sacking of Serov can do Mr K a lot of good.

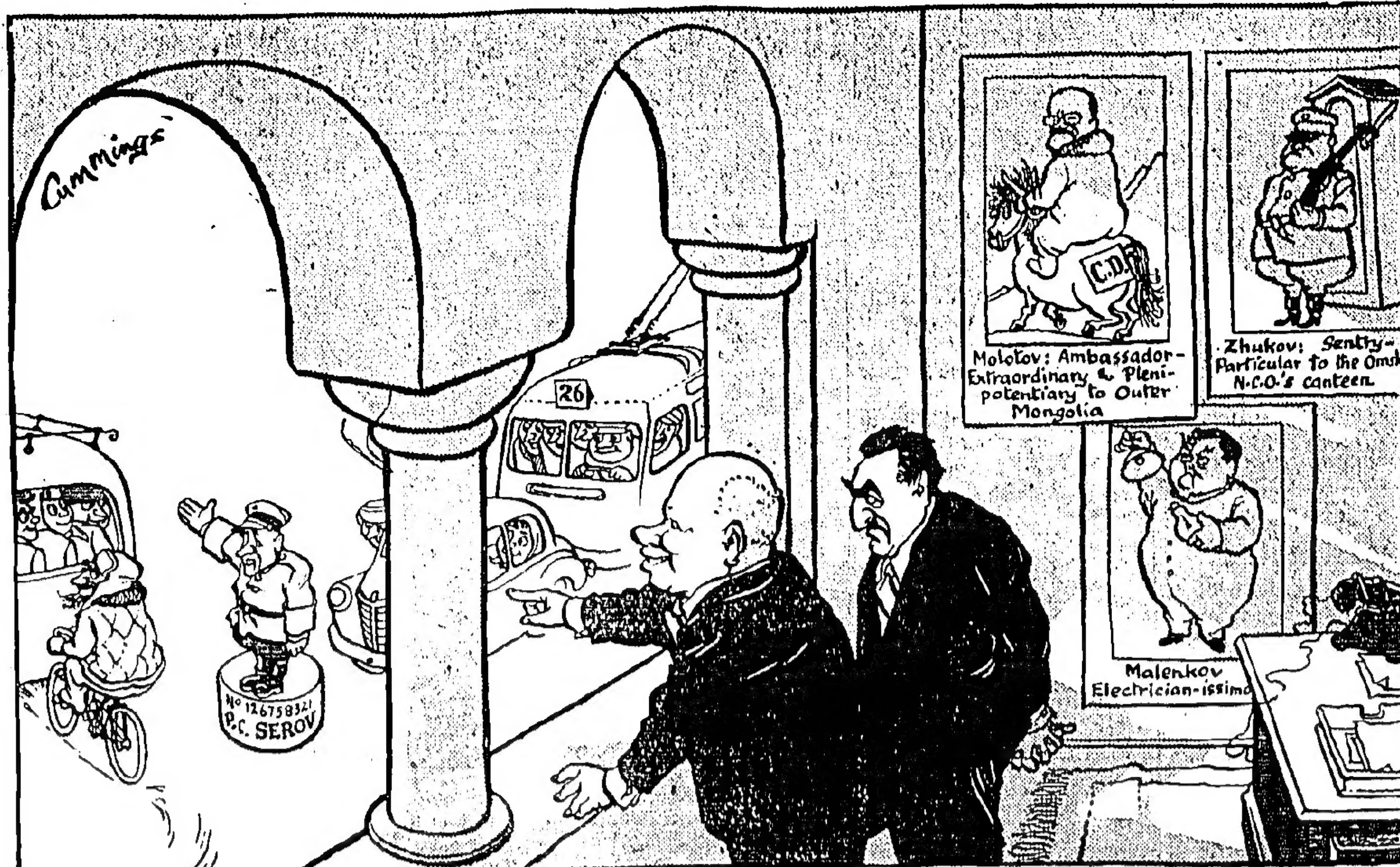
He can show that he is stronger than the secret police. He can also wash his hands of the dark deeds of the police.

If Krushchev replaces Serov by a party man—a real Communist—he can clearly demonstrate what he has been preaching for the last five years: that the party is stronger than any other body in Russia.

2 SEROV has outlived his usefulness to the Russian leader. The sacking proves that the party has now got the Secret Police under its thumb as well as the Army.

Now Krushchev is still ahead—by a long neck. Behind him he leaves a long string of enemies.

Of these Serov—the Man with all the Secrets—is potentially the most dangerous.



"Look, Mikoyan, my most inspired appointment yet!"

NOW THEY CALL IT "PRESLEY TOWN"

NOTHING so exciting has happened in this sleepy little German town of Friedberg since the first American G.I. nosed his way into it in a jeep bristling with machine-gun nearly fourteen years ago.

Today Friedberg has been renamed Presleytown, and the most famous G.I. of them all is "out of town" till Christmas. He's away on field exercises—the only place he is not surrounded by thousands of shouting, jiving German teenagers who pack the streets around his hotel, sneak up to his bedroom, and even hide in the bathroom to write him long fan letters in German, which Elvis can't understand anyway.

By

ANTONY TERRY



Elvis first became the German teenagers' idol over a year ago. Since then sales of his records have rocketed. Today he sells over a million discs in West Germany alone every year, and top favourite of the moment is "Hard Headed Woman." In the local Rock 'n' Roll cafes around here where the pony-tailed teenage girls go with their boy friends, it's more than one's life is worth to play anything but Elvis on the juke box.

Since he arrived in Germany on his eighteen months' service tour in October as plain Private Presley (Army No. 53310781) Elvis has succeeded in making the grade as a soldier and a "good guy" with his pals in the 3rd U.S. Armoured Division—to a degree which has surprised even the officers in his unit.

"He's just a quiet, nice character who is a more-than-average good soldier," said one of them. "Girl friends? The only German girl he knows lives in Frankfurt, and he won't be able to see her again until he's back from manoeuvres."

Pretty, blonde, 16-year-old hot Southern splanter that make her back from manoeuvres.

His father is planning a big Christmas homecoming when he gets back from rough to soldiering. Margrit has been Presley possessions were con-

tea with the Elvis family who invited, too, and so have a quiet Gruenwald family hotel rest for Elvis from driving Army where they have a one-floor vehicles for the Third Armoured suite. Since then he has seen Division, and a chance to get the Army has rules: Elvis must not rock or live in barracks. Nor, may he make any public appearances while in Germany in the Army. Any singing he does must be at home. And for the next few weeks, home does not mean the Army tent in which Elvis is spending his nights under the stars with the temperatures around freezing.

But at any rate he is saving his father, who deals with 700 £20,000 in taxes during the one month he's living rough. For while Elvis is in the Army he's taxed only on his £7 a week private's pay, and not on his million dollar a year income, which usually brings the U.S. Treasury over £200,000 a year in taxes.

Two new additions to the Presley family have been Presley possessions were con-

signed by his father—a area every week-end and we talk about this and that, and he answers some of his mail. He's looking fine and taking to Army life very well. I must admit I never thought he would do so well as a soldier."

Until recently the Presley family were toying with the idea of moving out of the hotel and into a house, especially after the first hotel they lived in failed to keep the crowds of curious fans and teenagers out of Presley's room even at night. Some of his German admirers are older women who even tried to bribe the porter in the hotel to let them go upstairs "just for a look."

Elvis, who is working a tough 60 hours a week, day in the Army and has to be on time like any other G.I., decided to get out from under. He moved with Granddaddy and father Vernon to another hotel where he could at any rate get a quiet night's sleep. Now the Presleys have given up the house idea. "It would need a dozen policemen to keep the fans from storming the place," an official said. "Or we would have to detach military police to do the job—and that's definitely out. It's easier in the hotel where he is now. They manage to run things so that Private Presley gets his seven hours' sleep despite the fans. We don't mind what he does—as long as he's on duty on time each morning."

It's Presley's father who drives with him to the barracks every day when he is stationed in Friedberg. They take a taxi and Pop collects the mail from the Army post office and takes it home to answer after dropping Elvis at the gate. At night Elvis takes a taxi or gets a lift in an army truck back to his hotel.

But among Elvis' fans is lucky Margrit Buerklin, who is looking forward most to Christmas, though it's hard going for both of them because Margrit knows about four words of English and Elvis not even that amount of German.

That is why a tiny dictionary goes everywhere with Margrit and why she is taking English lessons. By the time Elvis Presley gets back from manoeuvres she hopes to be able to carry on a proper conversation with him.



"HELP! POLICE! SHE'S DISTURBING THE PEACE...!"

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WOMANSENSE

Giles takes Christmas crack at Joy Matthews

TO WHICH SHE REPLIES:

You forgot the black stockings!

WOMAN'S WORLD

Scissor Treatment

Manila.
Two girl students in Cebu City in the southern Philippines complained to the police that 21-year-old Miguel Bacolod "trimmed" their dresses inside a cinema.

David said he hated the "pencil and sack" styles of the "mod" dresses.

He was sentenced to 10 days in jail.

ALL right, Giles—joke about my black velvet Edwardian slippers! Mock my impeccable haircuts for men! Sneer at my pigskin suitcase—with its lightest possible fittings! But listen to me—you and your fascinating friend in the drawing! What have you got to say about two lovely black legs for Christmas this year?

For—and I fear I'm in dark and deadly earnest about this—the black stocking story has really got going.

From New York (where they like them tight and lacy) to Paris (where they like them tight and lacy) the smartest women are wearing a black Christmas.

Even in good old London town they are creeping up the King's Road, Chelsea, to the outskirts of Belgravia and Baker Street.

But as yet they are still in the gym slip and flat shoe stage.

In New York the women are wearing those sooty black tights in the snowy white streets.

In "Two For The Seesaw," the new American play which opens in London next week, Miss Gerry Judd, who plays the lead, spends the whole of the first act in black stockings.

COBWEBBY

THE most sophisticated and beautiful girls in the ritziest night-clubs have those long, All-American legs swathed in fine black, cobwebby lace stockings which they wear with black crepe evening pumps.

The French girls are also wearing them with everything—I saw a strawberry blonde lunching at Maxim's, looking at the menu covered with Toulouse



"Here we are—WHAT TO GIVE HIM FOR CHRISTMAS by Joy Matthews... Pigskin dressing case with lightest possible fittings... £230. Grand Edwardian slippers in black velvet with gold monogram made to measure... £13 13s. A year's impeccable haircuts... £9 15s. for a fortnightly haircut and shampoo..."

Lautree girls in black woolly coat, beige shoes, beige hair and black stockings. I even found a riotous red-head swaying and swinging in the Elephant and Castle, the snootiest nightclub in Paris—wearing a shrieking pink outfit of an evening dress by Pierre

Cardin—and, guess what?—black stockings.

SWEEPING

NOT so long ago—it could be a couple of months or so—the black stocking was in the Girl Guide and Nippy class.

The cry was all for coloured legs—from pretty pink to grey green.

Now the dark and dangerous leg is sweeping the towns—and even the countryside.

My favourite sight was a bouncing blonde wearing black tights—by Christian Dior. With these she has a black and green mohair skirt, a black Jersey, a gold medallion round her neck.

TO BLAME?

NOW who is to blame for this black plague which has hit the capitals?

It is our old friend Balenciaga—that dark and designing Spaniard who introduced the

black silk stocking into his Paris collection two years ago?

Is it the arty, crafty, party types who have been sidling around Chelsea and the Left Bank in their thick woolly hose, often with red, or even white, flat ballerina shoes?

Or is it perhaps Grandma, looking so smart and slick for her age in her black knitted numbers, who has brought back the black legged look for Christmas 1958?

JACOBY on BRIDGE

MY old friend, Walter Malowan of New York, is a firm believer in percentage play. Twenty years ago I saw him go down on a hand when he lost a trick to a doubleton jack of clubs. The other day at the Regency Club in New York I watched him get that trick back when the jack of clubs showed up in the hand with the long clubs.

Walter ducked the first diamond, but had to win the second. West discarded a heart.

Walter continued by playing out four rounds of spades. Everyone discarded a heart on the last spade lead.

The last diamond by West and South were correct. East's heart discard was a bad mistake since it gave Walter a sure count of the hand.

NORTH 10	
♠ Q J 7 3	
♥ None	
♦ 6 5 4 3	
♣ A Q 10 7 5	
WEST EAST	
♠ 9 6 4	♠ 10 8 5
♥ K 9 7 6 3	♥ A 8
♦ 2	♦ Q J 10 9 7
♣ 8 4 3	♣ 9 2
SOUTH (D)	
♠ A K 2	
♥ Q J 10 5 4 2	
♦ A 8	
♣ K 6	
North and South vulnerable	
South West North East	
1♥ Pass 2♠ Pass	
3NT Pass Pass Pass	
Opening lead—♦ 2	

HEARD SENDS

Q—The bidding has been:
East South West North
1♥ Double 2♦
Pass 3♦ Pass 3♠
Pass

You, South, hold:
♠ K J 9 7 ♥ A Q 8 4 ♦ K 10 5 2 ♣ 6

A—Did four spades. Your hand looks mighty good for 10 tricks.

TODAY'S QUESTION
Again the bidding has gone one club by East, double by you, two clubs by West and two diamonds by your partner. This time the bid is:
♠ 1♥ 2♥ 3♥ 4♥ 5♥ 6♥ 7♥ 8♥ 9♥ 10♥ 11♥ 12♥ 13♥ 14♥ 15♥ 16♥ 17♥ 18♥ 19♥ 20♥ 21♥ 22♥ 23♥ 24♥ 25♥ 26♥ 27♥ 28♥ 29♥ 30♥ 31♥ 32♥ 33♥ 34♥ 35♥ 36♥ 37♥ 38♥ 39♥ 40♥ 41♥ 42♥ 43♥ 44♥ 45♥ 46♥ 47♥ 48♥ 49♥ 50♥ 51♥ 52♥ 53♥ 54♥ 55♥ 56♥ 57♥ 58♥ 59♥ 60♥ 61♥ 62♥ 63♥ 64♥ 65♥ 66♥ 67♥ 68♥ 69♥ 70♥ 71♥ 72♥ 73♥ 74♥ 75♥ 76♥ 77♥ 78♥ 79♥ 80♥ 81♥ 82♥ 83♥ 84♥ 85♥ 86♥ 87♥ 88♥ 89♥ 90♥ 91♥ 92♥ 93♥ 94♥ 95♥ 96♥ 97♥ 98♥ 99♥ 100♥ 101♥ 102♥ 103♥ 104♥ 105♥ 106♥ 107♥ 108♥ 109♥ 110♥ 111♥ 112♥ 113♥ 114♥ 115♥ 116♥ 117♥ 118♥ 119♥ 120♥ 121♥ 122♥ 123♥ 124♥ 125♥ 126♥ 127♥ 128♥ 129♥ 130♥ 131♥ 132♥ 133♥ 134♥ 135♥ 136♥ 137♥ 138♥ 139♥ 140♥ 141♥ 142♥ 143♥ 144♥ 145♥ 146♥ 147♥ 148♥ 149♥ 150♥ 151♥ 152♥ 153♥ 154♥ 155♥ 156♥ 157♥ 158♥ 159♥ 160♥ 161♥ 162♥ 163♥ 164♥ 165♥ 166♥ 167♥ 168♥ 169♥ 170♥ 171♥ 172♥ 173♥ 174♥ 175♥ 176♥ 177♥ 178♥ 179♥ 180♥ 181♥ 182♥ 183♥ 184♥ 185♥ 186♥ 187♥ 188♥ 189♥ 190♥ 191♥ 192♥ 193♥ 194♥ 195♥ 196♥ 197♥ 198♥ 199♥ 200♥ 201♥ 202♥ 203♥ 204♥ 205♥ 206♥ 207♥ 208♥ 209♥ 210♥ 211♥ 212♥ 213♥ 214♥ 215♥ 216♥ 217♥ 218♥ 219♥ 220♥ 221♥ 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Sugar Ray Willing To Fight Downes

London, Dec. 21. Sugar Ray Robinson, world middleweight boxing champion, is prepared to meet Terry Downes, the British champion, in a fight for the world crown in London.

Mr. Jack Solomons, the London promoter, announced this at a wedding reception where followed Downes' marriage to Mrs. Barbara Clark. Solomons was willing to meet the 22-year-old Robinson, who had returned to the ring after a year's absence, to fight Downes, who had won the world title from him in 1952.

AHEAD

The fight is expected to take place in the early part of 1959. Robinson, who has been out of the ring since 1957, is expected to return to the ring in the early part of 1959. He is expected to fight Downes, who has won the world title from him in 1952.

KMB 4, Police 2 WHAT A "SOCKER" SHOCKER

May And Bailey Likely To Rest From MCC's Next Game

Adelaide, Dec. 21. Peter May, the captain, and Trevor Bailey, who probably rest from the MCC side to meet South Australia here on Wednesday.

May has not missed a match since before the first Test match at Brisbane and Bailey is likely to start down on the advice of the specialist treating him for his injured back although the trouble is not regarded as anything serious.

It had been expected that Bailey might have been tried as an opening batsman against South Australia. The four selectors, however, have decided to keep him in the direction of past experience.

The MCC team for the match will be chosen for further practice tomorrow and Tuesday.

The tourists arrived here today after a smooth flight from Launceston, Tasmania, and went to Glenelg, a nearby seaside resort.

South Australia have named 12 players from whom their side will be chosen.

They are: L. Fowell (Captain), G. Stevens, A. Bedford, N. Davis, D. Harris, L. Hull, A. Hitchcock, B. Hurn, B. Jarman, J. Lill, J. Martin and P. Trethewey.

Leon Hull, a promising batsman, and Brian Hurn, an all-rounder, have not yet played in a first class match.

They take the places of Colin Pinch, the South Australian captain, who is injured, and Bob Roxby, the leg-spinner who has recently played below his best form.—China Mail Special.

Week-End Senior Softball SOUTH CHINA SCORE EASY 13-3 WIN OVER SEMINOLES IN DISAPPOINTING MATCH

By "TIME OUT"

Packed by Ena Remedios' two-hit pitching performance, the University lassies slashed a sixteen-hit attack to hand the winless Toreros a crushing defeat by the convincing score of 26 runs to two in the ladies division.

In the Senior League the Carolinians downed the Seminoles by 13 runs to three and in the Junior division the second-place Dodgers slaughtered the Stardusts by 22 runs to two.

The Senior game between the Saints and the Pandas and the ladies' game between the Matadors and Overeaters were postponed.

Lionel Daynam's youthful Stardusts played no match for Fred Diesta's Dodgers.

Batting first the Dodgers making full use of two walks, six errors and one hit, notched up six runs to put the game on ice.

The Stardusts replied with a trio in the second but that was as far as they could go.

No Stopping

The Dodgers scored another five runs in the third and there was no stopping them. They continued their slaughter with three runs in the fourth, one in the fifth, five in the sixth and two in the last, making a total of 22.

The Filipinos displayed great power at the plate with fourteen hits. A three-run homer by Lester Wu in the fourth highlighted the game.

The Senior match between the Seminoles and South China was a flop as the Indians had great trouble in hitting the tricky deliveries of South China's "Goose" Wong.

The Indians were also found guilty of ten mistakes, six of which were due to shortstop Klondike Wong and resulted in eight runs for the Carolinians.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Programmes and Entry Forms for the 6th Race Meeting 1958/59 to be held on Thursday 1st and Saturday 3rd January, 1959 (weather permitting) may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Alexandra House, the Club House, Happy Valley; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on Tuesday, 23rd December, 1958.

By Order of the Stewards, A. E. ARNOLD, Secretary.

The Carolinians definitely deserved this 13-3 win.

As was expected, the lassies from 'Jukfuk' ran wild around the bases in their match against the EVER-SO-GREEN Toreros.

In this five-inning game the Undergrads slashed Toreros' Ann Tiu for sixteen hits, which included a two-run homer by Ruby Liang and doubles by Ena Remedios and Vivian Ho.

The Undergrads' big inning came in the fourth. No fewer than 19 batters faced Ann Tiu and when the dust settled fourteen runs were notched up.

The Toreros' two runs came in the third when University pitcher Remedios couldn't find the plate. With manager A.G. Samuel taking a "I couldn't cure his attitude one wonders if the Toreros will end the season with a win.

In conclusion, I should like to take this opportunity of wishing all sportsmen, sportswomen, and supporters a very Merry Christmas and many more to come.

'Lobo' Cup Tennis Interport

The "Lobo" Cup Interport Tennis competition between Hongkong and Macao school-boys will be held on December 27 and 28 at the Urban Council Recreation Club courts, commencing each day at 2.30 p.m.

This year only three singles and two doubles will be played as against ten singles and five doubles in previous years. Hongkong can field a team of ten singles and five doubles easily but Macao finds very great difficulty to raise a team of more than four players.

The following players are selected to represent Hongkong:

SINGLES

Ling Fong, (Captain, DBS), Khauw Ben-lin (St Stephen's), Choy Yuk-kwong (St Paul's).

DOUBLES

Ling Fong (DBS) and Choy Yuk-kwong (SBC), Khauw Ben-lin (SSC) and Chung Pui-ding (SC).

Reserve: Mr. Randall (DBS). R. Popperall (KGV) was selected to play third singles but he is not available because of his participation in a cricket match.

It Was A Day Of Four "B's"—Beef, Brawn, Boot And Bitterness

By I. M. MACTAVISH

Pardon my blushes. I was one of the folks who thought this was going to be one of THE games of the season. How wrong . . . how terribly terribly wrong that pre-match judgment turned out to be.

KMB won by four goals to two but both they and the Police lost friends galore by their respective displays. Twenty-six thousand five hundred fans paid \$55,000 at the Hongkong Stadium for the 'privilege' of watching this brutal apology for a sporting contest. How many better ways such a healthy sum could have been spent.

It was a bitter battle from the start and the complete lack of strength on the part of the referee allowed it to deteriorate into the sort of spectacle that is no credit to anyone connected with it. I can only say that if football prestige has become as important as some of these players made it yesterday then the sooner we get back to a reasonable sense of perspective the better.

Crude tackling was the order of the day and it was hardly surprising that nasty injuries were plentiful. The cauldron finally boiled over just before the end when Tsang Wah and Lau Chi-lam put their marching orders. If the referee had taken similar punitive action long before he did, particularly when there were other deliberate and more disgusting incidents, sanity would surely have been restored.

Chief Culprits

The chief culprits in the game were, strangely enough, the two smallest players on the field. Lau Chi-lam and Tsang Wah were both under six feet tall and were a cruel craving to cut everyone else around them down to their own size.

Tsang Wah, the Police left-half, was the man who set the pattern. He was instrumental in KMB taking the lead in the fourth minute and his misfortunate incident seemed to set him at odds with the world in general and his immediate opponents in particular. Five free kicks were awarded against him, an unexpected culprit.

The other "little man" . . . Leung Kit, the KMB right-half . . . apparently adopted the motto "Anything you can do I can do better" . . . and in less time than it takes to say "Stick your studs in your shins" he was putting his theories into practice. He was the real villain of the piece.

Some of his lying bone-shattering tackles were as dangerous as they were misguided and although foul after foul was awarded against him he somehow apparently convinced the referee as to the purity of his intentions. . . but I doubt if he convinced another person among the huge crowd who watched him.

Badly Injured

One incident in the second half when he clashed violently with Tsang Wah—both players were badly injured as a result—was as vicious as anything we have ever seen here and although Leung Kit was himself carried to the touchline for medical attention he was allowed to resume playing again when he had recovered. His name went down in the week black book . . . but surely enough officials of the HKFA included him in the President's list of players to take the kind of action which the good name of our football demands.

Lam Kam-tong was badly injured in a tussle with Tsang Wah just before the interval. The referee inspected Tsang's boots as a result . . . but there was apparently nothing wrong with them . . . although that was shallow comfort to Lam who was badly gashed on the left shin. He was off for some time. When he returned nine minutes after the interval his shin was heavily bandaged but that didn't stop him cracking in his side's third goal and set-

ting them on the way to victory.

It would be easy to get carried away with the incidents of the day and in doing so lose sight of the vital factors involved. After all the big game ballgame, the switching of the match from Boundary Street to the Stadium, the publicity of this 'great' top of the league battle, and the environment created by the huge crowd . . . it would be a pleasure to say this was a big occasion.

One Big Flop

It was nothing of the kind. It was in fact one great big flop.

As a football team KMB were streets ahead of the Police. They could find their man, they could move into position with instinctive understanding, they could hold the ball purposefully . . . and when the chance came they could snap it up. Moss and his mates lacked this vital cohesion. They were ragged and disjointed.

This incidentally was the occasion the Police side had ever played on the wide open spaces of the Hongkong Stadium.

It is tempting to write a report against the background of their striving to play in strange surroundings. But I don't believe that would be a just judgment. This Police must stand comment for the side they were yesterday . . . they must stand comment too, divorced from any suggestion of "Boundary Street Blues".

As they played in this game—and I have not seen them in action since early in the season—they were a long way from being potential League Champions. They had glaring weaknesses both in defence and attack and when the fire of their natural enthusiasm started to dwindle they looked a very ordinary team indeed.

Real Weakness

The middle line was a sad disappointment. Kung Wah-kit was too easily tempted out of position and neither Yuen Ho-ping nor Tsang Wah had the class to dictate the course of the play. They gave the front rank poor support.

The real weakness in the side, however, was up front. Moss tried as hard as he always does. He sent several grand headers just outside the goal but far too often the ball was passed to him in a high dropping job and Lau Tim beat him to it time after time.

Mak Wing-hung, the Colony's top goal-scorer was never in the game and his partner Tsoi Kin-sang sand-danced his way into trouble far too often. With delightful ball control he would beat his man, beat him again, and again and then instead of getting the ball into the middle he would try one more trick and fail.

There were moments when the right-wing looked promising but later on it faded. After N. Chan-wing was injured by a crude and thoughtless Leung Kit tackle it disappeared altogether.

To me the loudly acclaimed Police side was a great disappointment. I expected something extra special from them. What I got was very very ordinary stuff indeed and Tsang Wah's embittered display brought

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Barry Appleby

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ONE—WE DON'T
KNOW THEM
THAT WELL

I never thought addressing
Christmas cards was so
complicated

COOK BETTER MEALS

WITH GAS

Army South's Rugby Title Hopes Smashed

LOSE TO INSPIRED POLICE XV BY DECISIVE MARGIN

By PAK LO

Army South's hopes of winning the Hexangular Rugby Tournament this season, were smashed to bits on Saturday afternoon when at Kai Tak a Police XV that had to be seen to be believed won not only deservedly but convincingly by 11 points (one goal, two tries) to nine (three tries) in a fast and open match.

On the same ground Army North the reigning champions had little trouble in keeping their place at the top when they beat the RAF by 12 points (two tries, two penalty goals) to three (one penalty goal).

On the other side of the harbour, Club as expected after a forward battle jumped up into second place in the tournament when they defeated their old rivals, the Navy, by eight points (one goal, one try) to nil, while in the minor game Club "B" could not answer to the strong Whitfield Wanderers side and lost by 12 points (one try, three penalty goals) to six (two tries).

At Boundary Street RAF "B" upset the 1st Lanes by 11 points to eight.

As a result of these matches the Hexangular Table has been completely changed with Army South, once one of the seeded teams, languishing at the bottom of the Table while their counterparts, the Northerners, who were considered only fair, occupy the top place as shown below.

Hexangular Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Army North	3	3	0	0	46	15	9
Club	3	3	0	0	1	20	10
Navy	3	1	1	1	21	27	3
RAF	3	1	0	2	9	17	2
Police	3	1	0	2	11	32	2
Army South	3	0	1	2	30	30	1

Police v. Army South

This was a fine exciting game to watch. Towards the end every single spectator cheered himself hoarse with the supporters of the Police gaining a vocal

ascendancy to such an extent that the Police players themselves commented on it after the game, and said it kept them going in the last few minutes. The Police opened the game with their usual fumbling tactics, and most spectators began to wish for an abacus to keep the score.

Suddenly after five minutes the Police pack came to life, and from then on played a storming game that upset the Army forwards. A quick try gave the Police the final urge they needed and the three in halves began to play as they had never done all this season.

Excelled

Gunningham excelled in the scrums, winning them almost completely with Army only hooking back three the whole game.

There was a strong cross wind throughout the day, and the Police were expected to gain their three-point lead until they changed over and then Army North would run away with the game.

The Army, however, never had a hope. In the second half Army South should have used the win to gain ground, but instead when they crosskicked or kicked for touch, they worked on the wrong side of the 4-4, and half their kicks went into Police hands.

The Army three, when they got the ball run across field, though Sharp had some lovely straight runs, but once he gave the ball to Goulds the Army attack was over.

Greedy

Goulds insisted on trying to go off on his own and never gave his winger a chance. Even Sharp after a while became greedy, and with the two centres hogging the ball the Army had few hopes of scoring.

Among the forwards Maider was good in the loose and line-outs but his pack did not give him as much help as the Police pack did to their forwards.

The Police well they were terrific. O'Hare at scrum-half though a little slow in getting the ball out was passing beautifully and Black was always a danger.

Wonderful Game

Everyone of the Police three was good, and their passing was a very different thing from the last few weeks. Dunn played a wonderful game at full-back, and was seldom beaten. The Police pack, while not dominant in the line-outs, were much superior in the loose with Bryan and Roberts the stars. In fact if the Police had tackled less as did Dunn, Army South

would have left the field without scoring.

The Police pack started an attack in the seventh minute from deep inside their own half, and there was a lineout five yards from the Army line. Police got the ball and Bryan took it and charged his way through to score. No conversion 3-0.

The Army levelled the score a few minutes later when Sharp got the ball on the Police 25, slipped through the defence to send Warrington over in the corner. No conversion 3-3.

For the next ten minutes Army South maintained a territorial advantage and Birdsell hit the upright with a penalty conversion from twenty yards out.

Narrow Misses

Just on time Johnston who touch-kicked beautifully all day backed the ball through the Army three and some very fast following-up by the Police saw the ball go to McEwan who scored near the posts, Roberts converted, 5-3.

The Police in the second half missed narrowly with a penalty conversion but in the seventh minute after very strong pressure by the Police, a scrum was ordered five yards from the Army line. Black got the ball tried to go through and as usual was caught, but O'Hare got the ball and barged through to score. Roberts' kick missed by the thickness of the paint on the goal posts, 11-6.

The Army kicked off from this try and the Police jumbled at last and a five-yard scrum resulted. The ball came out smoothly to Sharp who scored in the corner. No conversion, 11-9.

The Police thereafter pressed steadily until the final whistle but did not score again.

RAF v. Army North

Like their counterparts, Army North played the first half against the wind with Phillips dropping back to fly-half behind Bingham to make sure that the ball got moving when it came out.

Wynn and Muris again to a large extent dominated the line-outs, and the Army played a very tight game in the first half against the wind, but as soon as they had the wind opened the game up with Phillips moving up to scrum-half and

again playing very well indeed. Bede-Cox was good again, but Leppard was not extended in defence.

The Armen on the other hand kicked badly, invariably giving the Army plenty of chances. Among them, Martin had some bright spells and the RAF three overall were quite good but no match for the Army.

Bede-Cox especially was always a thorn in the RAF's side. He converted one penalty and also scored one try, while Phillips scored near the end in the corner. Blackstock converted a difficult kick for the RAF to make the final score, 9-2.

Club v. Navy

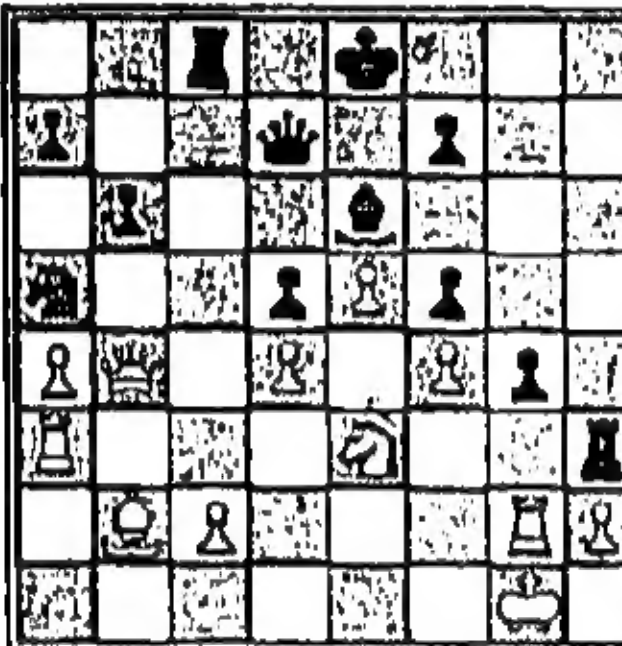
The Club kept the ball fairly tight in the game, and Navy were in trouble throughout without regular possession of the ball. Mainga was again good, while Delaney and Watson were the mainstays of the defence.

The Club were almost continually on the attack with their three definitely looking the better combination, and moving very smoothly.

Steven opened the scoring for the Club with a nice try which gave the Club a three-point lead. There was no further scoring until the last minute of the game, when from a scrum five, Bennett got the ball and whipped through to score. McEwan converted to make it, 8-10.

CHESS

by LEONARD BARDEN

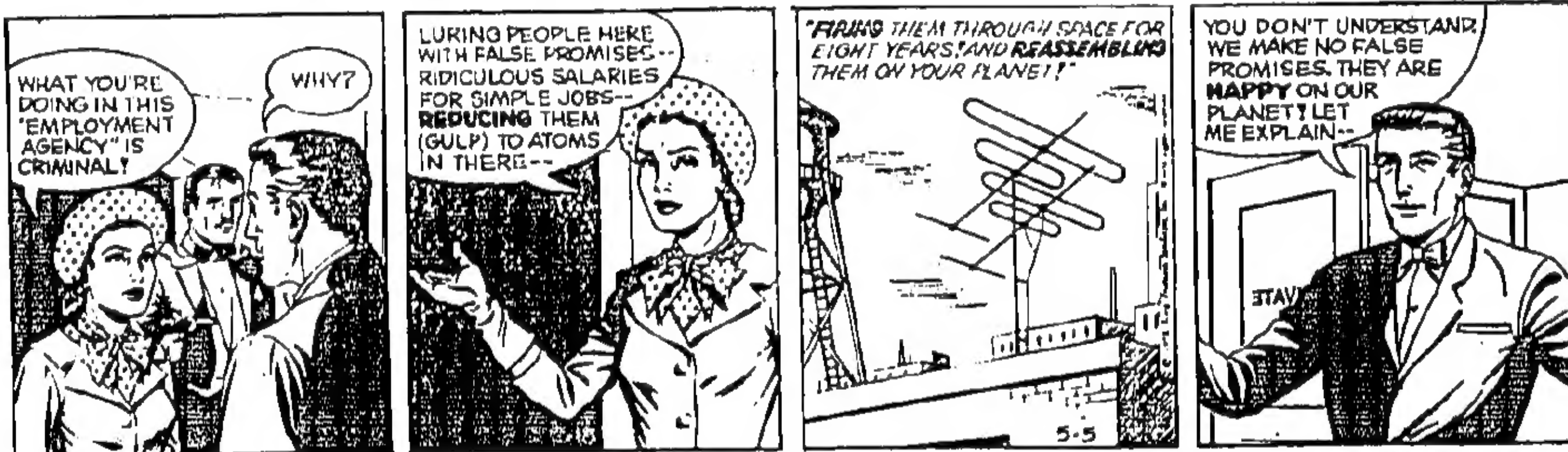


Here is a position from master play. White to move and win. Solution No. 5533: 1 B-K5, K-R6; 2 R-B4, K-Q6; 3 R-B3, or 1... P-B5; 2 B-Q4.

London Express Service

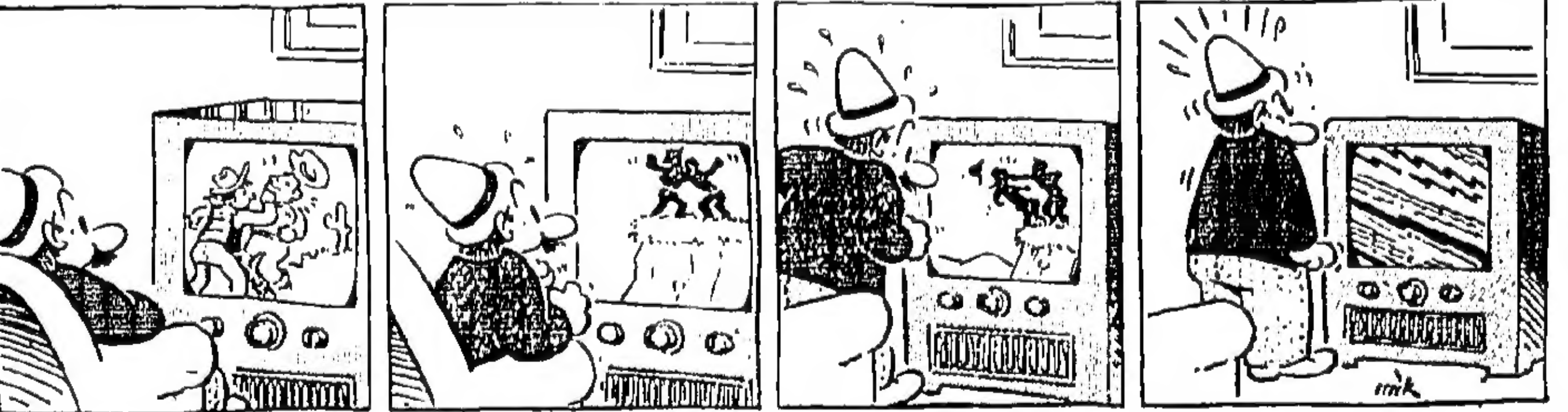
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



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By Mik



NANCY

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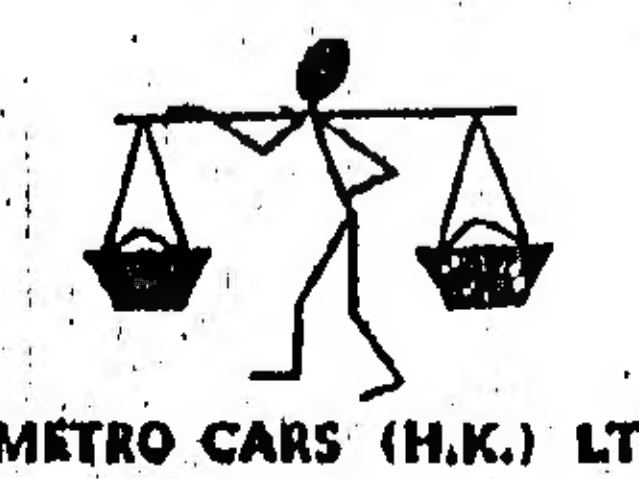


BRICK BRADFORD

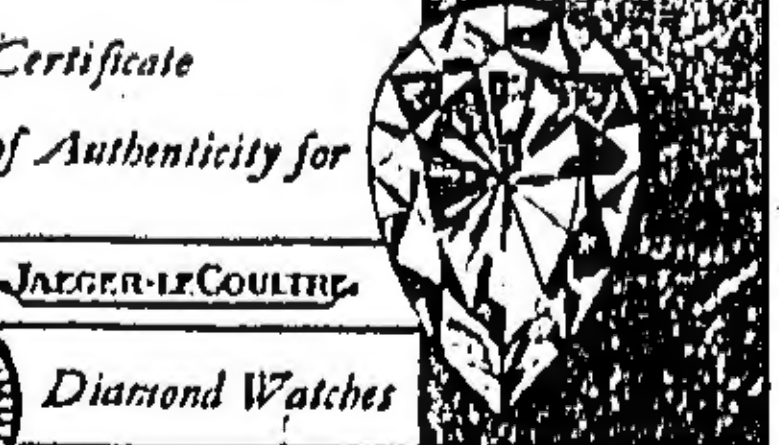
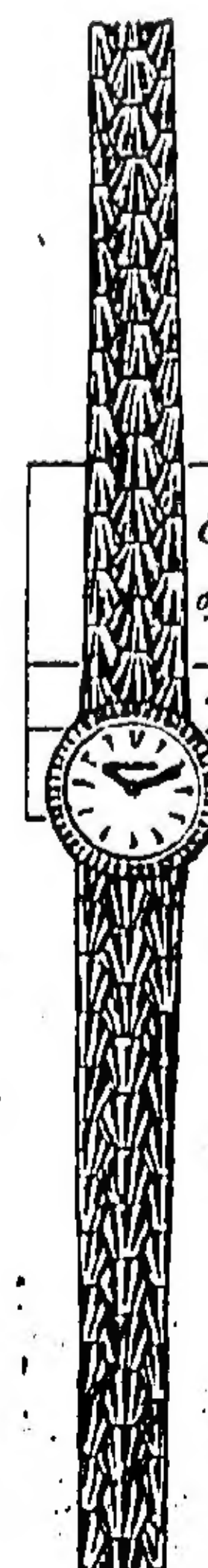
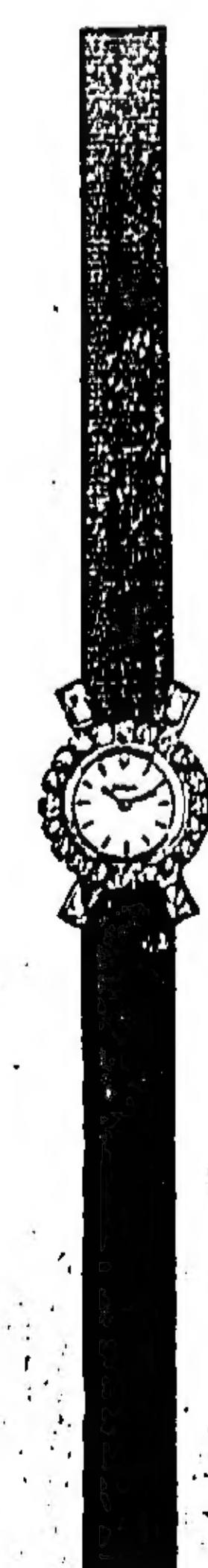
By Paul Norris



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CHINA MAIL

Page 10

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1958.

SHEAFFER'S
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'This Bag Contains Opium'

Snr Superintendent T. Cashman of the Narcotics Bureau said in evidence in the Victoria District Court this morning that he heard on board a ship a man tell Police Officers on the point of opening a suitcase in his cabin: "I would like to tell you the truth, this suitcase contains opium."

The superintendent said that the man, Curran Rahim, who was sentenced to three years' gaol last Friday for possession of opium, had then said that the suitcase did not belong to him.

"The suitcase had no labels on it and when asked if he had reported the presence of a suitcase under his bed to the ship's authorities, Curran said No," Superintendent Cashman said.

Superintendent Cashman who was giving evidence against Farahat, Lachar, Ibrahim, 36, Flexible Merchant of Tanganyika, charged with possession of opium and conspiracy and The Takman alias Matthew Chow, charged with conspiracy, said that when told this, Ibrahim who shared Curran's cabin had denied ownership of the suitcase.

Chief Inspector C. Smith is prosecuting, assisted by DSI D. McMahon. The case is being heard before Judge B. J. Jennings.

Sailor Fined

A 21-year-old able seaman, J. Williamson, of HMS Chichester, was charged with common assault before Mr. A. L. Leighton at Central Magistrate's Court this morning. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$75 or 21 days in prison.

HONGKONG TUG BEGINS LONG OCEAN TOW

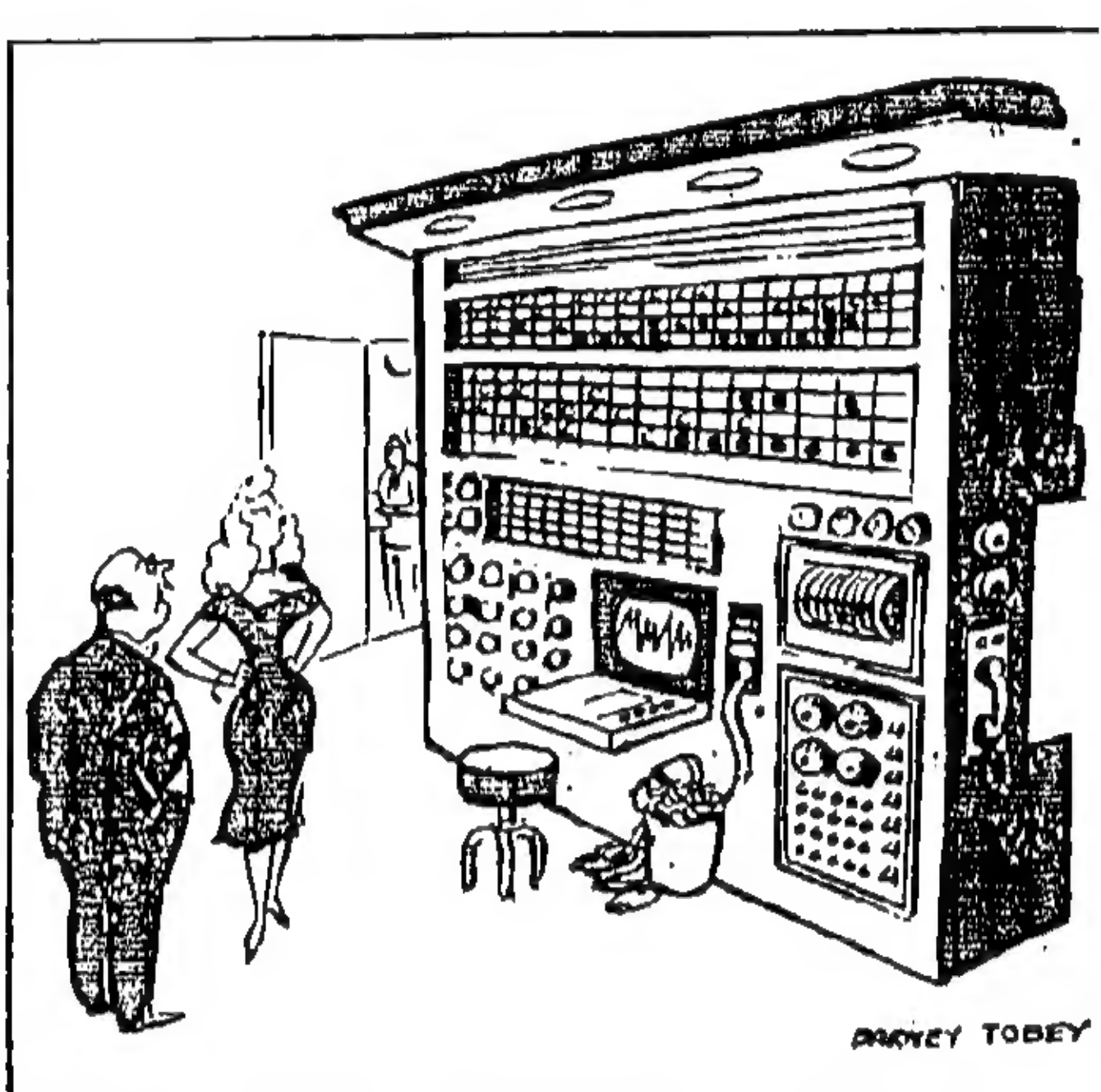
Nelson, N.Z., Dec. 11—By Airmail.

The Hongkong ocean-going tug Cabrilla sailed from here today for her home port with two old coastal vessels in tow.

They are the 950-ton Rata and the 650-ton Murray, both for many years employed on the coastal New Zealand trade for the Anchor Shipping Company of Nelson.

Captain A. Conejero, master of the tug, said before he sailed he hoped to average three knots with a favourable trade wind for the 5,000-mile voyage.

This Funny World



"Probably just needs a drop of oil somewhere. I hardly think it would give you a wolf whistle."

The little convoy will make only one stop en route, at Townsville in Queensland to refuel, and will sail through the Torres Strait north of Australia.

The ships are expected to reach Townsville in about 25 days and Hongkong in just over two months.

Deserted

The Cabrilla carries a crew of 20—all Filipinos. On board the Rata is Captain J. S. Bor of Hongkong with five Filipinos but the Murray is a deserted ship.

The three vessels are in line with the tug leading and the Murray last. They are linked by chain bridges and wire hawsers.

Some steam pressure is being kept up on the Rata which carries sufficient coal for four days steaming in case of emergency.

The two old steamers have been moored side by side in Nelson for more than a year since they were laid up. They have been purchased by the Lanena Shipping Company of Hongkong for coastal trade in Chinese waters.

Veterans

Both the Cabrilla and her master are veterans of long ocean tows. They are employed by their owners, the Pacific Islands Shipping Company Ltd., in distributing new tonnage built by the company.

Recently the Cabrilla towed a string of oil barges to Kuwait and on the voyage out to New Zealand had bunked her three barges for the Auckland (New Zealand) Harbour Board and a coastal vessel for the Fiji Government.

Another tug owned by the company is at present en route to New Zealand with a string of new barges.

FIVE HURT IN WEEKEND ROAD MISHAPS

Five people—three of them young children—were injured in traffic accidents over the weekend. All the injured have been admitted to hospital for treatment.

A five-year-old boy, Kwun Wah of 209, "K" Block, second floor, Tai Hang Tung Resettlement Area, Shamshuipo, was knocked down by a private car in Boundary Street near its junction with Tai Hang Tung Road at 4.45 p.m. yesterday.

Earlier in the afternoon, a six-year-old girl, Kwok Shu-ying of Ching Sun Terrace, Shek Kip Mei was hit by a commercial lorry in Nan Chang Street, Shamshuipo.

A woman, Wong Oi-wah, aged 20, of No. 68 Hau Pui Loong Road, first floor, was knocked down by a private car in Sheung Heung Road near its junction with Pau Chung Street, Hung Hom.

On Saturday afternoon, a three-year-old girl, Lau Kwai-heung of No. 512, Second Street, Fu Mei Village, was hit by a private car near the Kai Tak Rifle Range.

A male pedestrian, Cheong Shiu-king, aged 45, of No. 11A, Jardine Hill was knocked down by a tram car in Causeway Bay Road near Morison Terrace on Saturday afternoon.

Two Fined \$750: Court Told Of Gold Smuggling From Macao

A 31-year-old seaman, Wong Ping, of 273 Main Street East, Shauiwan, first floor, was fined \$750 this morning when he pleaded guilty to importing 20 bars of gold, worth approximately \$27,000, without a permit.

He appeared before Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central.

Senior Revenue Inspector W. L. Stone, prosecuting, told the Court that early on Friday morning, acting on information, Revenue Sub-Inspector Yuen Chau, went to the Ming Sang Wharf to wait for the arrival of a motor vessel the "Wing Shun Lee", from Macao.

The vessel came alongside at 7.30 a.m.

Wong left the vessel three hours later. Just outside the wharf gate, he was stopped by Inspector Yuen and asked if he had anything to declare, particularly gold. He said No.

He was taken, back to the vessel and in the presence of the master of the vessel, he was searched and found to have a cloth belt around his waist.

Twenty bars of gold were found inside.

In mitigation, Wong asked for leniency saying that he had borrowed the \$1,000 for his bail. He added that he was carrying the gold for someone else.

In another case of a similar nature, a 34-year-old coolie, Kwok Kau, was also fined \$750 by Mr. Hin-shing Lo for importing 11 bars of gold.

Kwok was arrested also on Friday by the same Sub-Inspector Yuen Chau, who waited for the arrival of the "Tak Shing" from Macao. Kwok denied that he had anything to declare when asked by the Inspector.

However, Kwok was later taken to Queen Mary Hospital where an X-Ray examination revealed the 11 bars of gold concealed inside his body.

LIFE IN A THAMES HOUSEBOAT

Suzette Stone, Former China Mail Reporter, Tells Of A Novel Venture In London . . .

by Kathleen Allen

HOUSEBOAT life on the Thames these days offers more than just an exciting and fashionable place in which to entertain your friends. It's downright economical too!

According to Miss Suzette Stone, a former Hongkong resident who has recently returned to the Colony for a six weeks visit, it's inexpensive and provides the answer for those seeking peace and quiet.

Unlike many London dwellings that fall to the lot of a working girl, the houseboat has adequate plumbing, cooking facilities, lighting and even a telephone.

It's cosy and comfortable, has open fires and a central heating arrangement whereby radiators operate off the boiler.

High Rents

And where else, for the same price, could you get an uninterrupted view of the river from your bedroom window?

It all began in 1956 when, fed up with high rents and furnished rooms, Miss Stone bought an old sailing ship at Hampton Court. From there she had it towed through the locks and down the river to a site on the Chelsea embankment.

Its generous dimensions of 85 feet in length and 22 feet in width offered immense possibilities for conversion and before long, workmen had it turned into a variety of flats, with all the comforts normally restricted to a Mayfair residence.

Decorating it throughout with an eye for both colour and comfort, Miss Stone incorporated one or two foreign "natural touches" such as ray Hongkong lanterns and a revolving ship's wheel converted into a coffee table.

Seven Tenants

Recently she added another cabin on deck and now has seven tenants. Her own apartments, situated in the stern, boast the additional enchantment of a large window, which permits a full view of the river activity.

"Just Evans and ducks end me at that end," she says, "making it an ideal setting for my work."

At present Miss Stone is writing a novel. Begun last

spring, she hopes to have it ready for publication next summer.

And just as an ordinary building has its 'ups and downs' and semi-disasters, so has the houseboat. The most recent of these occurred three days before Miss Stone was to leave for Hongkong.

When the tide went out that day the ship settled down as

usual into the mud, but must have struck something sharp for it suddenly sprung a leak and the craft began to flood.

"All hands were piped on deck," recalls Miss Stone with a chuckle, "and action stations assumed."

Fortunately, however, the matter was settled by telephone and before long they were towed over to a beach. Then, for 2½ days, while workmen made the necessary repairs, the inhabitants camped outdoors by candlelight.

"We're dry though," she says, "I love every minute of it. So much, in fact, that I am hoping

her for it was there that she was born and spent part of her childhood.

Miss Stone, a one-time reporter on the China Mail, went to England in 1953 and since then has worked on the Evening Standard, Sunday Express and the Evening News. She has also had considerable experience broadcasting for the BBC.

Late in January of next year, Miss Stone will return to England with her parents, Mr. & Mrs. L. B. Stone. They will sail from Hongkong to Naples and then complete their journey through Italy and France by road.

Frogmen Diving For Diamonds

Capetown, which has long gone on underground in South Africa, is now going on under the sea.

Five frogmen from Capetown have begun diving off the coast of diamond-rich South-West Africa in search of the precious stones.

Their search results from a Supreme Court decision in South Africa ruling that only a certain mining company had the right to mine minerals between high and low water marks along the coast—up to now a favourite place for free-lance prospectors.

Two of the prospectors, Jablo Ehlers and John Vlieters, decided to explore further out to sea and in the sand they found 30 diamonds.

Indian Rocket

New Delhi, Dec. 21. India's biggest single-stage rocket will be launched on Christmas Day from Bangalore by the Indian Astronomical Society, it was announced today.

The 108-pound rocket is 13 feet long with a diameter of four inches—U.P.1.

Suspect Arrested

A man was arrested following the theft of cash and a jacket valued at \$99.15 from No. 61A, Connaught Road Central, ground floor yesterday morning.

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